



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-245
Thursday
20 December 1990

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NOTICE TO READERS: As of 2 January 1991, television sourcelines in the DAILY REPORT will reflect how a station identifies itself. In most cases, this change eliminates the "Television Service" designation in favor of the station identification as broadcast. The presence of a new television sourceline reflects this change in policy, rather than the establishment of a new station or network.

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Cameroon

President Signs Law Allowing Political Parties

AB1912213090

[Summary] Yaounde Domestic Service at 1900 GMT on 19 December reports that a total of 29 laws on democracy were promulgated today by President Paul Biya, bringing the country "out of the night of intolerance into the light of acceptance of differences." The laws promulgated today include one concerning political parties, the conditions for their creation, and rights and sanctions that can be imposed on political parties. "There is no restriction on the creation of political parties." A law on freedom of association was also promulgated.

Biya Receives Chad Special Emissary 18 December

AB2012100090 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] A special envoy from Chad was received today by the head of state, Paul Biya. The new Chadian secretary of state for information and culture, Mr. Nadjita Beassoumal, after he emerged from an hour-long session with President Biya, told journalists that their discussions centered on the recent developments in Chad in which Hissein Habre was overthrown by Colonel Idriss Deby. The minister added that Ndjamenas has been looking forward to aid from Yaounde. Mr. Beassoumal was accompanied by Chad's secretary of state for public works and transport.

Student Leader Interviewed on Change Proposals

AB1512194490 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 13 Dec 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Cameroon's university students have been causing more grief for the government recently. There have been new disturbances on the campus at Yaounde and the exiled International Union of Cameroon Students held a conference here in London making demands for major changes in Cameroon. But last week, the National Assembly passed a bill calling for the recognition of opposition parties in Cameroon, one of the students' basic demands. Max Gerald asked (Jude Ngou), vice president of the UK Union of Cameroonian Students, if he was not satisfied with President Biya's reforms so far.

[Begin recording] [(Ngou)] Those changes are a step in a positive direction, but we think it could be more. What the students have always been saying is that there should be a round-table conference of all the political, economic, and social groups in the country.

[Gerald] Surely, these things take time.

[(Ngou)] Yes.

[Gerald] The president has passed a bill saying that there is no limit on the number of political parties. He is also saying that registered parties will have access to the public media. Just last week that was the first ever question at the session in the National Assembly. Biya also said that deputies can cross the floor and join opposition parties. Is that not enough at the moment?

[(Ngou)] That is a [words indistinct] which is good, but I think what the students all insist on is that that is not enough because the students realize that those who sat down to draft up all these new regulations, have been people from within the party in power, the party of the current government. But if they had people from across the board, those who are inside and outside the country, express their views on this matter, they would have come out with probably a better solution.

[Gerald] Some would say, however, that students are being used as tools of the opposition parties, opposition groups within Cameroon when they should be really concentrating on their studies. What would you say to that?

[(Ngou)] That is a lie, that is capital lie. At the last conference we had here there was nobody from any political party. All those who participated in this conference were students and students alone. In fact, we had members from the embassy or some diplomats from the Cameroon Embassy here in London who took part in this conference and they can vouch that there was nobody from the opposition who was there and the students themselves did say that they were holding a conference in good faith to contribute their share towards national development. And that is it. [end recording]

Chad

Deby Interviewed on Defeat of Hissein Habre

PM1912152690 Paris LE FIGARO in French
18 Dec 90 p4

[Interview with Idriss Deby by Pierre Darcourt in Ndjamenas—date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Darcourt] Hissein Habre said that you were supported by the Islamic Legion and that you received large quantities of aid from Libya—weapons, equipment, and money. Have you met with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi?

[Deby] I have never met with Col. al-Qadhdhafi since I became a dissident. But when the Chadian oppositionists in Libya joined us to form the Patriotic Movement for Salvation, they naturally came with their weapons and vehicles. I would like to emphasize this point: I have never given any verbal or written pledge to Tripoli and I have never gambled with Chadian territory.

[Darcourt] What are the keys to the success of your lightning offensive?

[Deby] I did not use what I learned at military school. All my actions were based on knowledge of the territory, mobility, surprise, and secret movements. They were a poacher's tricks to make the enemy, who was too slow and too cumbersome, fall into successive traps, to defeat his demoralized army by rapid and sudden strikes, and to turn his weapons against him—80 percent of our equipment comes from Habre's arsenal. But the decisive factor was the courage of our fighters. Habre made the mistake of sending the Presidential Guard into the Iriba battle, which aroused our desire to win and we crushed them.

[Darcourt] After almost being captured on 25 November, Habre returned to his capital. The Chadians thought that he was going to fight to the end and were not expecting him to flee abroad. Did you think you would capture Ndjamené without a fight?

[Deby] We were prepared for anything. But we underestimated Habre's cowardice, ignominy, and greed. From 28 to 30 November, he had Nguini Korei [Habre's customs chief, Deby's former chauffeur] kill more than 300 political prisoners. He personally killed [former commander-in-chief of the national armed forces] Hassan Djamous and my two brothers. Horrible mass graves have been discovered. Dozens of handcuffed corpses horribly mutilated or decapitated are fished out of the Chari river every day. Habre deliberately opened the Presidential Guard's weapons store and released the city's common criminals. Before leaving, he ransacked all the coffers, emptied the banks, and stole the assets of state enterprises—an enormous haul of 7 billion CFA francs. He burned and destroyed everything which he could not take with him. He suddenly embarked his family on a C-130 plane which landed them in Maroua. He left in his armored Mercedes followed by a convoy of 20 other vehicles in the direction of Cameroon.

[Darcourt] You have abolished the Constitution, disbanded the political police, abolished the excessive taxes (Footnote) (One month's salary per year) which funded the war effort, and restored press freedom. What are you bringing Chad?

[Deby] Neither gold nor silver. We are bringing it a more valuable gift—freedom. I know that the Chadians are tired of war, corruption, and poverty. I am offering them a multiparty system, the end of arbitrary actions, respect for human rights, and real independence. I know that the "post-Habre" period will not be easy and that political pluralism in this country is an incredible challenge! But I am determined to take up that challenge.

[Darcourt] What do you intend to do with Habre?

[Deby] Try him for crimes against humanity. We are drawing up a prosecution case. I just want to make one remark: French aid to Chad increased from 150 million francs [Fr] in 1981 to Fr580 million last year. What did Habre really do with it? To increase his personal income, he set up a drugs laboratory and an international trafficking network. We have evidence and we will make it public.... And it is not just Chadians who are involved.

We have also discovered a factory forging CFA francs which he put into circulation in the country. We have swept away a cruel dictator, a drug trafficker, and a forger. The countries which gave him asylum should be aware of their responsibilities. At present he is in Senegal, in a villa development belonging to him, bought with money stolen from the Chadian people.

Wire Service Notes Deby Remarks on Libyan Ties

LD2012100190 Tripoli JANA in English
0854 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] Paris, December 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Mr. Idriss Deby, the president of Chad, stressed the strong relations between the Chadian people with the Arab people in Great Jamahiriya. In a press interview with the Paris-based weekly JEUNE AFRIQUE yesterday, Mr. Deby said that Chad was keen on building new foundations of cooperation and friendship with great Al-Jamahiriyah.

He added that the next stage in Chad was one of construction and re-building the country.

Burkinabe, Senegalese Envoys Meet Deby, Comment

AB1912175090 Ndjamené Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] It may be recalled that this morning the head of state, in separate audiences, received Mr. Salif Diallo, Burkinabe secretary of state at the Presidency, and Mr. Salloum Kande, Senegal's ambassador to Chad based in Yaounde. Concerning Burkina Faso's delegation, it may be noted that it is the second to be received this week. Could this be seen as a special mark of friendship between Ndjamené and Ouagadougou? That was the question our reporter, Mama Daou, put to Mr. Salif Diallo:

[Begin recording] [Diallo] We would say that Chad and Burkina have always maintained excellent relations reflecting the wish of our two peoples, and what we are saying is that today the new government in Ndjamené is a source of hope for the Chadian people; and it is the duty of Burkinabe to make their contribution, both material and moral, so that Chadians may finally be able to live in peace and national concord and that real solutions may be found to problems of the process initiated by the new government. All that explains why we visit Ndjamené to demonstrate our brotherly solidarity with the Chadian Government.

It should also be stated that Chairman Idriss Deby and Chairman Blaise Compaore know each other, and from that standpoint, it is quite natural that the (?purpose) of these two missions to Ndjamené was to take stock of problems and, for that matter, prospects with regard to Chad.

[Daou] The chairman of the Council of State held very lengthy discussions with you. Can one interpret this as marking a special and sustained friendship between Burkina and Chad?

[Diallo] I began first of all by saying, among other things, that between the Chadian and Burkinabe peoples there have always been good relations. And at the summit level, between our two heads of state, indeed, there exist very solid ties, and it is against this background that I was able to hold lengthy discussions on the situation prevailing at the moment in Chad with Chairman Idriss Deby, who is a brother and friend of Burkina Faso and its leader. [end recording]

Still this morning, the chairman of the Council of State received in audience Mr. Salloum Kande, Senegal's ambassador to Chad based in Yaounde. It may be recalled that Senegal granted asylum to Hissein Habre. According to the Senegalese diplomat, this issue was discussed at the audience:

[Begin Kande recording] I told Chairman Idriss Deby how glad I am that we were able to reach agreement on this issue; that for years, since the time of our ancestors, Senegal and Chad have maintained secular relations characterized by a time-tested, mutual trust. And from time immemorial, there has never been any disagreement; nothing has ever [word indistinct] us; all this has been due to the cordial relations existing between our two countries. All that is important.

Senegal's granting of asylum to the former president, Hissein Habre, stems from something that anyone knows, namely, our longstanding tradition as a country of hospitality. In other words, President Diouf has already stated that the reception, the acceptance of former President Habre in Senegal can by no means have any political significance. With regard to this acceptance, Presidents Diouf and [?Idriss Deby] agree on several aspects. This is, therefore, nothing more than a humanitarian gesture.

Now, concerning your [?]intention to prosecute him—well, this is an issue on which I am not competent to comment. What is certain is that President Diouf and his brother, Chairman Deby, are determined to do their utmost to ensure that these excellent relations are not, under any circumstances whatsoever, disturbed by events which do not come within the [words indistinct] of these relations. [end recording]

UNIR Party Appeal for Conference Noted

AB1912181690 Paris AFP in French 0947 GMT
19 Dec 90

[Text] Libreville, 19 Dec (AFP)—About three weeks after Hissein Habre's fall and flight from Ndjamen, his former sole party, the National Union for Independence and Revolution (UNIR), appealed to its activists for peace and declared itself ready to participate in a national conference.

This communique, sent from Maiduguri, a town in the north of Nigeria, to the AFP office in Libreville, was signed by the movement's Executive Bureau. UNIR was created in 1984 by Hissein Habre and was the basis on

which he founded his regime. The sole party system was confirmed with the adoption of the Constitution by referendum in December 1989. At the July 1990 legislative elections, however, independent candidates were accepted. Soon after taking power, Idriss Deby suspended the Constitution and dissolved the National Assembly.

According to the communique, UNIR "declares itself ready to participate fully in a national conference on Chad's political future, where all shades of opinion can be expressed in order to put a definitive end to the fratricidal war fanned from the outside." "On account of the current insecurity and disorder in Chad, the Executive Bureau appeals to all UNIR activists, wherever they are, to keep their cohesion and calm."

President Hissein Habre, observers recall, has not made any statement since his flight from Ndjamen during the night of 1 December. This flight was not marked by any communique or warning, for which some who remained in Ndjamen reproached him, while Idriss Deby was making a triumphant entry into the Chadian capital.

The communique insisted on the "gains of the rallying movement": "national unity, order, and security of goods and persons, economic and social recovery, and more particularly, peaceful settlement of the territorial conflict between Chad and Libya at the International Court of Justice."

The UNIR Executive Bureau "also recalls that the government of the Third Republic began a democratic process that led to the adoption of the Constitution and free legislative elections that were expected to end in restoration of a multiparty system."

Several dozen close associates and intimate friends of the former head of state followed him in his flight but did not seem to have gone as far as his Dakar retreat. Thus, several of them remained in Maroua in northern Cameroon, while some went to northern Nigeria, two regions that border Chad, it was learned from different reliable sources.

The reappearance of UNIR outside the country seems to show that Hissein Habre's party, if not he himself, is determined to keep playing a role in Chad where he was sole ruler for six years, observers in the region believe.

Council Sets Up Court for Habre 'Punishment'

AB1912205590 Ndjamen Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] The Council of State met this morning in ordinary session under the chairmanship of Maldoum Bada Abbas, vice chairman of the Council of State. Here is a report on this meeting read by Civil Service and Labor Commissioner Mustapha Ali Aliphei:

[Begin Aliphei recording] The Council of State met today, 19 December 1990, in an ordinary session under the chairmanship of Comrade Maldoum Bada Abbas,

vice chairman of the Council of State. During this meeting, the Council discussed the report made by the commissioner in charge of justice and keeper of the seals relating to the ways and means of bringing former President Hissain Habre to court for the horrible crimes he committed. The importance of these crimes and their horrendous character require a punishment. That is why the Council, after in-depth deliberations on the various aspects of the matter, has decided to set up a special criminal court under mandate of the commissioner for justice to begin the necessary procedure.

The Council also discussed the importance of security and expressed satisfaction with the measures taken by the commissioner in charge of interior and security and asked for the reinforcement of these measures in collaboration with the Ministry of Defense for the establishment of total security in Ndjamena and its suburbs as soon as possible.

The lifting of the curfew, which will be effective 20 December 1990, will be accompanied by other measures, including patrols throughout the city, and security agents will be in sufficient number so that they may be more effective in their duty to protect the public.

The meeting began at 1000 and ended at 1300. [end recording]

Gabon

Further Reportage on 'Arafat Libreville Stopover

LD1812231990 *Algeria's Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
1702 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] The brother leader, president Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of Palestine, has made a stop-over in

Libreville, capital of Gabon, on his way to Tunisia. He had talks with Foreign Minister Ali Bongo and Minister of Justice Michel Anchouey. The president told the press that the visit was a part of an African tour aimed at acquainting the officials of its countries with the situation in the Middle East and the dangers of war in this region.

The brother leader, president Abu-'Ammar, has strongly denounced the unprecedented massing of foreign forces in the Gulf and expressed the fear that war might break out in the richest oil region in the world. He said the world economy will be severely harmed as a result of this, and expressed hope that efforts will be doubled in order to avoid the disaster of the age.

The brother leader had arrived from Nigeria and left yesterday evening for Tunisia. He held official talks with the Nigerian president, General Ibrahim Babangida. The talks dealt with Palestinian developments and the joint efforts aimed at achieving a settlement of the Gulf crisis through negotiations in order to spare the region and the world the disaster of war. The talks were characterized by total agreement in views. The two presidents agreed on continued coordination between the Arab and African committees for the achievement of a settlement in the region.

Following the presidential talks, the Nigerian and the Palestinian delegation had a meeting at which bilateral relations were discussed. The brother president had arrived in Nigeria for an official visit. He was welcomed at the airport where an official welcome was accorded by President Babangida and a large number of officials. Before his departure, Abu-'Ammar met with Arab ambassadors and briefed them on developments. He also met with the Arab expatriate community and gave a press conference in which he talked about developments in the region.

Ethiopia

Unified Eritrean Organization Leader Interviewed

PM1912120290 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 16 Dec 90 p 4

[Hani Naqshabandi report: "Eritrean Official Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We Oppose Federal Union With Ethiopia"]

[Text] Jeddah—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr, the Unified Eritrean Organization's foreign relations chief, has said: "Our disagreement with the Eritrean People's Liberation Front over methods does not mean that we are standing against it on the hostile side with Ethiopia." In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT he added: We are ready to defend the Front against the Ethiopian forces seeking to control the coastal city of Mitsiwa, now under People's Front control.

The Eritrean official said that the Unified Organization is now demanding broad democratic unity comprising all the Eritrean groups—provided that each group is entitled to retain its own viewpoint—including the People's Front, which the Eritrean official expected would agree to discuss the unity issue in order to reach agreement on the future of Eritrea, which after independence will adopt party pluralism and a vote by the people as a means to determine the system of government.

Abu Bakr said that a national council will convene at the end of this month inside Eritrea to unite the groups and then hold talks with Ethiopia on the region's future.

Concerning conditions inside Eritrea, the Eritrean official said that 1991 will witness serious U.S. attempts to establish a federal union between Ethiopia and Eritrea, as it has put forward to People's Front officials in the past. The U.S. Government believes that such a union should continue for 10 years, after which the Eritrean people's right to self-determination would be decided. Ethiopia, on the other hand, insists on only five years. Both positions are unacceptable. He added that the Western position in general on the Eritrean question assumes two directions, one adopted by the group of Scandinavian states that support the Eritrean people's right to self-determination. They promised the Eritrean people that they would espouse their cause, refer it to the United Nations, and open the Eritrean file. The position of the other European states, however, is more consistent with the U.S. position calling for the establishment of a federal union between Eritrea and Ethiopia, which is rejected by all the Eritrean groups, regardless of their different preferences with regard to Eritrea's unity and independence from Ethiopia, taking into consideration Ethiopia's interests in the Red Sea.

The Eritrean official pointed out that Ethiopia's position on the independence of the Aseb area alone is unacceptable, because it entails the area's separation from Eritrea after independence. He added: What we aspire to

achieve after independence is not a federal union, which has failed in the past. He spoke of the 28-year struggle, the 150,000 martyrs, and the 1.5 million Eritreans made homeless abroad.

Accord on Relief Aid Through Mitsiwa Noted

AB1812223690 Dakar PANA in English 1457 GMT
18 Dec 90

[Text] Dakar, 18 Dec (PANA)—The World Food Programme (WFP) Tuesday announced that it has reached agreement to reopen the Red Sea port of Mitsiwa in Ethiopia to shipments of emergency relief food through a UN operation run with a dedicated ship chartered by the programme, said a WFP press release sent to PANA in Dakar Tuesday. WFP, the food aid arm of the UN, reached the agreement through separate negotiations with the Ethiopian Government and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, the statement said.

The reopening of the port is a major breakthrough for the provision of humanitarian food aid to people in Eritrea affected by drought and civil strife, WFP executive director, James Ingram, said in the statement. All parties should be congratulated for their cooperation and willingness to compromise in what have been long and difficult negotiations, he added. The programme expects the first voyage to Mitsiwa to depart from Djibouti early January 1991.

Mitsiwa is considered critical for relief operations as it is the most efficient route for food shipments into Eritrea. With the failure of the rains for the second year in a row and continuing civil strife in the country, the programme estimates that Ethiopia will need a total of about 941,000 metric tonnes of emergency food aid in 1991.

The port of Mitsiwa has been closed since February 1990 and the programme, at the request of the UN secretary-general, has been involved in negotiations to reopen the port for some months. The release said. [sentence as received]

Rebel Radio Reports Student Clash in Asmera

EA1912185290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad
Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0630 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] There has been a clash between Eritrean and Tigryan students at [word indistinct] school in Asmera. The hour-long conflict, which started at 1630 and spread to the (?Emperor) cinema, was deliberately instigated and aggravated by Dergue security agents. Soldiers, who were in readiness in the area, opened fire to aggravate the situation. For sinister motives, the Dergue also intended to cause another clash between civilians in the area and to stir up a conflict between Eritreans and Tigrayans, but the attempt did not succeed.

Oromo Rebels Make Battle Claims, Note Looting*EA1912115290 (Clandestine) Voice of Oromo
Liberation in Oromo 1900 GMT 17 Dec 90*

[Excerpts] Asosa Province—The heroic Oromo Liberation Army [OLA] and the people's defence force ambushed and inflicted heavy losses on an enslaving Amhara colonial government force between Bambesi and (Gara-Konda) on 10 December, putting 19 fascist government soldiers out of action, and leaving 12 dead, and seven wounded. [passage omitted]

The heroic OLA also infiltrated the base of one of the enslaving Amhara colonial government force's battalions, killing 20 and wounding over [word indistinct] others. [passage omitted]

In (Mana-Sibu) province forces of the antipeople Workers Party of Ethiopia government, who have made plundering their hallmark, continue looting our people's property. Accordingly, those forces entered many homes in Kara on 12 December, looting a large quantity of property and destroying what they could not carry away. [passage omitted]

250 Government Soldiers Killed*EA1912100690 (Clandestine) Voice of Oromo
Liberation in Oromo 1900 GMT 17 Dec 90*

[From "News of the Week"]

[Excerpts] The antislavery struggle of the Oromo people led by the Oromo Liberation Front [OLF] fighting in eastern and western Oromia won considerable victories in various actions last week to reduce enemy control. [passage omitted]

In the fighting carried out against the enemy in the provinces of (Mana-Sibu), Begi, and [word indistinct] last week, the heroic Oromo Liberation Army, and the people's defence force inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. In several attacks against the enemy in the three provinces, they put 533 fascist soldiers out of action, comprising over 250 killed, and over 283 wounded. [passage omitted]

Kenya**New KANU Party Election Rules Issued***EA1912113690 Nairobi KNA in English 1333 GMT
18 Dec 90*

[Text] Nairobi, 18th December (KNA)—The KANU [Kenya African National Union] secretary-general, Mr Joseph Kamotho, today released the party election clearance rules for both the civic and parliamentary elections in line with resolutions passed at the recent KANU special delegates conference. Mr Kamotho, who is also the minister for transport and communications, told a press conference at the KANU headquarters that the

party spelt out the election procedures so that the resolutions could be followed during the forthcoming two parliamentary and nine civil by-elections.

Among the recommendations, the minister said, the party's non-refundable nomination fees had been revised. Now, candidates vying for civic elections will pay Shs [shilling] 5,000/- instead of the previous Shs 1,500, while parliamentary candidates will now pay Shs 10,000/- instead of the previous Shs 3,000/-.

He said that candidates will be disqualified from contesting any civic or parliamentary seat if he/she is not a Kenya citizen, does not hold valid national ID card, has not paid the non-refundable nomination fees, is not a KANU life member, is under sentence of imprisonment for a period exceeding six months. Other conditions include those with unsound mind, bankrupt, discharged dishonourably from the Armed Forces, not registered voter, has been undermining the security of the country etc., etc.

The requirements as per the nomination rules state that: nomination of candidates for parliamentary and civic elections shall be by secret ballot. All candidates shall on nomination day supply the returning officer with three passport size photographs with their full names printed and signed at the back. All persons seeking clearance for nomination shall submit to the party headquarters a duly completed pledge of loyalty to the president on a form obtainable from party headquarters.

Upon a day and time to be specified by the party headquarters all candidates for the nomination process shall present themselves before their respective returning officers. For the purpose of nomination, every candidates shall be: proposed and seconded, and supported by not less than seven and not more than 20 persons other than the proposer and seconder and: nominated by the delivery of nomination papers by the candidate to the returning officer of the constituency between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning and noon on the nomination day.

Even [as received] candidate shall pay a non-refundable deposit of KShs 5,000/- for local government candidates and KShs 10,000/- for National Assembly candidates.

There shall be a nomination process in every constituency where there are more than three candidates. All paid-up KANU members who are not under suspension from the party and every registered voter not otherwise disqualified from voting under Caps 7 and 265 of the law of Kenya shall be entitled to vote during the nomination process.

Ballot papers for use during nomination process shall have photographs of the candidates and their full names against such photographs. Such ballot papers shall have attached to them counterfoils having the same numbers of combinations printed therein.

After the count, including any recount, of votes at the end of the nomination process, the returning officer shall announce the results of the best three candidates who have received the greatest number of votes and shall as soon as practicable certify the results to the supervisor of elections and the director of local government elections. Any person aggrieved by the outcome of the nomination process shall have the right to seek redress in the resident magistrate's court.

Tanzania

President Mwinyi Holds Talks With PLO's 'Arafat

EA1912162190 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service
in Swahili 1300 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Dodoma—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today held private talks with the PLO leader, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, at State Lodge in Dodoma. The talks, which lasted 35 minutes, centered on the prevailing situation in the Middle East and apartheid in South Africa. Mr. 'Arafat arrived in the country yesterday and went to Dodoma this morning. He is expected to leave the country today for Uganda.

Uganda

President Museveni Holds Talks With 'Arafat

EA1912220590 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Excerpt] The chairman of the OAU, President Yoweri Museveni, has held talks with the president of the Palestine state and chairman of the PLO, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting took place at State House, Entebbe. The Palestine leader, who was in Uganda for a one-day friendly working visit, briefed Mr. Museveni about the situation and current developments in the Gulf. Mr. 'Arafat was received on arrival at Entebbe International Airport by President Yoweri Museveni. [passage omitted]

214 Returnees From Rwanda Arrive in Kampala

EA2012090690 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Two hundred and fourteen Ugandans who were arrested and kept in prisons in Rwanda following the outbreak of civil insurgency in the country two months ago have returned home. The Ugandans who arrived at

Kampala city square shortly after 1600 yesterday, amid cheers from relatives and friends who turned up to receive them. [sentence as heard] They travelled from Rwanda to Uganda in a convoy of lorries flying flags of the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross]. The head of the ICRC delegation in Uganda, Mr. (Antoine Koechlin) told reporters that the repatriation of Ugandans trapped in Rwanda was an ICRC operation which has been facilitated by the government of Uganda and Rwanda.

Mr. (Koechlin) said the returnees who included both adults and children could not be allowed to bring assets they acquired in Rwanda because of lack of logistics. The returnees were allowed to come with their personal effects and were given 1,000 Uganda shillings each, to facilitate their transport home from Kampala. Mr. (Koechlin) did not say how many Ugandans were still being held in Rwanda but pledged his organization's readiness to help in the repatriation and tracing of more Ugandans, should the need arise.

Mr. (James Kivuka) of a Uganda musical troupe, the Mixed Talents, told journalists of the ordeal they went through in Ruhengeri prison where they had been held. Mr. (Kivuka) paid tribute to the Uganda Government for the immense interest it took in the welfare of its people. He said three Ugandan women, two old women aged about 70, and a student, were still being held in Ruhengeri prison.

UPDM Chairman Urges Rebels Return From Bush

EA1812182290 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] The chairman of the UPDM [Ugandan People's Democratic Movement], Mr. Erik Otema Allimadi, has called on the people of Alero Division in (Noya) County to call back their sons and daughters who are still in the bush, to come back and join their brothers in their efforts of nation building and they must rest assured that Otema is back in Gulu for peace. [sentence as heard] Mr. Otema Allimadi made this call at a rally held at Alero Sub-county headquarters. He said he stands for peace and not war, adding that anybody who would come out of the bush and surrender will not be punished or molested at all.

The district administrator Gulu, Mr. Ochaya, informed the people of Alero that the presidential pardon is still in force and called upon those still in the bush to come out and start working together with their countrymen for progress.

Botha, UN Envoy React to Apartheid Resolution

*MB2012053590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Text] The South African ambassador at the United Nations, Mr. Jeremy Shearer [name as received], says for the first time the General Assembly has acknowledged the commitment of South Africa to negotiation and to the dismantling of apartheid. Mr. Shearer was referring to the moderate wording of one of eight resolutions on South Africa adopted by the General Assembly in New York.

He said the main resolution left space for member countries to decide how they wanted to respond to progress with reform in South Africa.

Our Washington representative reports that although the main resolution was adopted without opposition, a number of countries, particularly the United States, the 12 European Community countries, and Britain, sharply criticized its wording in statements accompanying their votes.

The American ambassador, Mr. Tom Richardson [name as received], said the resolution gave insufficient recognition to reforms in South Africa.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, says he has been encouraged by the strong standpoints of a positive nature which a number of members of the United Nations have taken.

He said it was clear that the attempts of certain South African organizations to get a decision moved which would have meant a condemnation of the South African Government had failed.

He trusted that these organizations would now begin to realize that the future of South Africa would not be determined by international organizations.

Mr. Botha repeated that the government was always of the opinion that the United Nations had no jurisdiction of factual grounding to take decision on South Africa.

No More Elections Without Black Participation

*MB1912183690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1751 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] Pretoria Dec 19 SAPA—The deputy minister of constitutional development, Roelf Meyer, says the government is determined there will not be another general election without black participation.

Mr. Meyer made this comment in an interview to be published in January next year in the publication, *RSA POLICY REVIEW*. His remarks were released in advance on Wednesday by the government's Bureau for Information.

"Government is determined that there will not be another general election in South Africa in which blacks cannot participate. In view of this it has, in five years at its disposal, as from September 6 1989, during which

constitutional changes can be negotiated, enabling the blacks of South Africa to participate in the next election to constitute a legislative authority.

"Government has already pledged itself to a referendum or election for whites. The rest of the population will also have to make a decision and a referendum or election will, therefore, have to be held for them, either together with or separately from that for whites," Mr. Meyer said.

A new constitution, he added, would involve power sharing.

"Power sharing means that a system of checks and balances has to be established through which power is distributed instead of concentrated. Obviously, there are various ways to achieve this. One such example is the office of head of state. Power can, for example, be distributed among several individuals—such as a ceremonial state president, a deputy president or a prime minister."

Mr. Meyer went on to say that in his view, four mechanisms were important in a future constitution.

"(The four) are the devolution of authority that brings government closer to the people, the fact that regional authorities must have autonomy over specific matters concerning their region, horizontal power-sharing resulting in various interest groups participating in decision-making and representative voting systems and voting procedures which make proportional representation possible."

During the process, the government rejected completely the idea of an independent monitoring force, such as UNTAG [United Nations Transition Assistance Group], to maintain law and order while negotiations were underway.

"It is government's viewpoint that South Africa must solve its own problems and that it has the ability to do so. This viewpoint is also held by the ANC [African National Congress] and other parties.

"As soon as an external force become involved, own control is sacrificed. South Africa is a sovereign, independent state that must solve its own problems, compared to Namibia which was not independent," said the deputy constitutional affairs minister.

Government also did not have a proposal "at this stage" for a final constitutional model for the country.

"....Specific proposals are still being developed and studied. However, two important objectives will definitely be considered in the development of government's constitutional proposals for the negotiation table: Firstly, a new dispensation must be based on a democracy. In essence this means that every citizen must have a political vote of equal value in an undivided South Africa with one citizenship for all and one nationhood.

"Secondly, a constitution must be developed that provides for the solution of the conflict potential in the country. In order to achieve these two objectives, the immoderate centralisation of power must be prevented. This means that the simplistic Westminster government model is not an answer for South Africa's constitutional problems. In contrast, a model with federative qualities possibly offers the solution to be aspired to," the minister was quoted as saying.

Minister Vlok Discusses ANC 'Wild Elements'

MB2012100490 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 0500 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] ANC [African National Congress] internal leader Walter Sisulu said yesterday he believed the police could put an end to the violence in the country. He was speaking at the Bekkersdal township near Westonaria yesterday morning while on tour with Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok. Mr. Sisulu encouraged victims of the violence to cooperate with police investigations. However, several questions have been raised.

We spoke earlier to Mr. Vlok:

[Begin recording] [Announcer Colin Fluxman] Mr. Vlok, a very good morning to you.

[Vlok] Good morning, Colin.

[Fluxman] Do you think the ANC fully supports the police campaign to end the violence in the black townships?

[Vlok] Well, I'm sure that the leadership, that they support it, but I'm not so sure whether all the followers of the ANC support it. You see, there are wild elements in the ANC, elements that I know that they are worried about, too. Now, these are the radicals, the radicals who would like to see a taking over of power in this country, and people who are not prepared to share power with all the different peoples and groups in this country. So, although the leadership support it, and I'm glad to say that this is my firm impression, I am concerned about some of the wild cards inside the ANC who is not supportive of the call to end the violence.

[Fluxman] What is the ANC leadership doing about this so-called wild card, as you've put it?

[Vlok] Well, as far as I am concerned they are doing their best, but I would like to suggest that they can do more...

[Fluxman, interrupting] How?

[Vlok] ...to, to contain them. They can show to them that it is in the best interest of the country and all the peoples in this country to really follow the road towards a peaceful settlement, and not through violence, because we cannot build a future with violence.

[Fluxman] Mr. Vlok, thank you very much, and compliments of the season to you and yours. [end recording]

Further on Vlok, Sisulu Tour of Squatter Camps

MB1912150090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1432 GMT 19 Dec 90

[By Jonathon Rees]

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—Shackdwellers in troubled Bekkersdal township on Wednesday told Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok police had aided attackers who recently burnt and destroyed their shanty homes.

Mr. Vlok was touring the Mandela View squatter camp with African National Congress [ANC] internal head Walter Sisulu. Thirteen people have died in the squatter camp in clashes between rival groups this month, according to Police Liaison Officer Captain Henriette Bester.

Squatters alleged Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] supporters—posing as the Bekkersdal Environmental Awareness Campaign—had attacked them with police complicity following a controversial decision by Azapo to institute a rent boycott.

Azapo Transvaal Vice-President Mr. Gomolemo Mokae rejected the allegations against his organisation, saying the ANC had attempted to impose its will on Azapo.

An ANC member, standing next to a pile of corrugated iron that used to be her home, said she had gone outside and seen a fire nearby, but thought nothing of it. "I went inside, then heard people running outside, and as I tried to bolt my door something hit the window. I picked up my baby and bolted, and went to sleep in the veld for the night. When I returned I found my house burnt to the ground," the woman, speaking through an interpreter, told Mr. Vlok and Mr. Sisulu.

She said uniformed police had been amongst the attackers. She had been too scared to report the incident, as everything she owned—including her baby's clothes and her money—had been destroyed.

Squatter Pathekile Ginya, who has just been discharged from hospital, showed numerous stitched shotgun wounds on his torso to Mr. Vlok. He said police had shot at him on December 9 "for no reason".

Other squatters were adamant police had been involved in the destruction of shacks, and showed the minister 9mm cartridges they claimed were used by police to shoot people fleeing their burning homes.

Ms Margaret Seoka, 66, told Mr. Vlok that Azapo supporters aided by the police had burnt her house down.

Mr. Vlok encouraged all squatters who complained to him and Mr. Sisulu of police complicity to submit statements and lay charges. These would be investigated by the SA [South African] Police, he said.

"We would like to get to the bottom of this. We want the truth of the matter."

Several people said they were scared to deal with the police, and feared arrest if they went to the police station.

The pair toured the squatter camp in a new air-conditioned police armoured urban patrol vehicle—the Nyala Mark II. Only 10 of the vehicles had been built and were in active use following testing of the prototype three months ago, a policeman said.

One squatter said police had delivered a gang of attackers to his area. A whistle had blown, the lights of a nearby garage were turned off, and his home had been torched. He said he was shot in the stomach while trying to save his children.

"These people really are the police. I saw this myself," he said.

Addressing about 400 people afterwards, Mr. Sisulu appealed for peace and unity, saying there was no reason to settle differences by violence. "Like all civilized people you must discuss your differences."

Mr. Vlok, endorsing Mr. Sisulu's statement, said government would do everything possible to assist the squatters, adding that he had come to the area to listen to their problems and see the scene for himself.

He said he would not allow police to break the law.

"If we work together we can make this a great country, if we fight we will destroy this country."

Mr. Vlok said every allegation of police complicity in attacks was taken seriously, but there had been no evidence of police partiality. He said though there may be individual police taking sides, this was strictly prohibited and would not be tolerated. The minister wished the assembled people a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Government Confirms Release of 45 Prisoners

*MB2012114090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1112 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[By Thami Mkhwanazi]

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 20 SAPA—Forty-five political prisoners were released countrywide last weekend, the South African prisons service confirmed on Thursday [20 Dec].

Twenty-seven of the prisoners were released from Robben Island Prison, one, a woman, from Kroonstad Prison and the rest from various mainland prisons.

Mrs Elizabeth Ranoto of Soweto was freed on Friday. The remaining prisoners were released on Saturday.

The prisons service also confirmed that the weekend releases brought to 299 the number of political prisoners set free since President F.W. de Klerk's famous February

2 speech in which he announced a range of government reforms, including the release of Mr Nelson Mandela.

The prisons service liaison office confirmed that 254 prisoners were released since February 2 but would not say how many prisoners were still under lock and key.

Asked whether there would be any political prisoners in jail when Parliament resumed in February—the government is expected during the coming parliamentary session to remove obstacles in the negotiation process—the prisons service said: "You are referred to the announcement by the Minister of Justice Mr H.J. Coetsee of November 2, 1990, in which the procedure prisoners are to follow to ask for indemnity and amnesty is set out."

This procedure, said the prisons service, "is the outcome of an agreement between the government and the ANC [African National Congress] and is already pursued by ANC members and many others".

"In order to facilitate the process, the prisons service will on request arrange for the necessary forms to be made available. As the onus is on the prisoners themselves to utilise these channels to expedite their release, it is impossible for the SA prisons service to speculate on any possible release."

ANC publicity officials Saki Macozoma and Gill Marcus were unavailable for comment.

The release of political prisoners was among demands made by the African National Congress at last weekend's consultative conference at which the organisation resolved to give the government an ultimatum of April 30, by which period the ANC would consider suspending the talks-about-talks if the government had not met its demands.

National Leaders React to De Klerk Speech

Treurnicht Reacts

*MB2012064390 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Text] The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr. Andries Treurnicht, says he believes in the political independence of a people, but that there can be economic interdependence.

Speaking at a public meeting at George, Dr. Treurnicht said he accepted the concept of a southern African economic community, or loose confederation of independent states similar to the European Community.

Dr. Treurnicht said the CP intended expanding talks with black leaders, and also to have talks overseas. He said he had received invitations from the United States and Germany.

Referring to the state president's New Year message, Dr. Treurnicht said he agreed that unrealistic expectations and racial fear had increased during the past year.

PAC Reaction

MB1912141890 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Interview with Barney Desai, PAC publicity and information secretary, by reporter Steyn de Preuter; date, place not given; recorded; from the "Africa South" program]

[Excerpts] The Christmas and New Year address by the South African president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has caused widespread reaction. In his speech, Mr. De Klerk recommitted the South African government to fundamental reform, but the president also slammed some organizations for what he called unacceptable policy issues. Steyn de Preuter reports:

[Begin recording] [De Preuter] Reacting to the results of the recently-held conferences by the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], Mr. De Klerk said violence and intimidation had now reached unacceptable proportions. He added that it was essential to reach agreement on what was acceptable in the South African society. He then listed what was unacceptable to him. [passage omitted]

The slogan, "One Settler, One Bullet," was clear reference to the Pan-Africanist Congress. We asked Mr. Barney Desai, the PAC's publicity and information secretary, for a reaction:

[Desai] I think that Mr. de Klerk is overexaggerating the importance of that slogan. You know, the fact of the matter is that there are two million white families who have 3.5 million guns licensed, and if you take the fact that each magazine contains six bullets, and I presume that they also have a spare magazine, then we have the privileged population of this country with something like 41 [as heard] million bullets. That's not including the Army or the Police. So really, one side is armed to the teeth and is accusing the other side of (?sloganeering) in defense of themselves.

After all, these slogans emanate mainly from the young people—young people who have been terribly brutalized over the last decade, and it's understandable. But they don't form part of our policy. Our policy is quite clearly for a nonracial democracy in this country, and there's nothing exclusive about our attitude; if we can achieve it peacefully, we would hope to do so. And our demand, therefore, is for a constituent assembly, where people on a common voter's roll can vote for a new order in this country.

[De Preuter] Is the slogan, "One Settler, One Bullet," part and parcel of your official policy?

[Desai] No, it's not. It is a slogan that has been generated only as a result of the armed struggle that the African people were forced to embark upon in order to make a (?front) for self-determination in this country.

[De Preuter] Mr. De Klerk also referred in his speech to incitement of racial hatred. Now, the PAC stands for the right of Africans to rule their country. Do you regard white South Africans as Africans?

[Desai] Oh, absolutely. Thirty one years ago, our founding president, Mr. Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe, made it very plain and clear. He said this, he said that all who owe their loyalty to this country, to Africa, and who identify with the aspirations of the indigenous people of this country, are Africans. Only the other day, in Namibia, Mr. de Klerk said he was an African, and I don't deny that he's an African, if he behaves like an African, that is, if he respects the wishes and the will of the people of this country to be democratically ruled, to be ruled by consent.

[De Preuter] Do you think he is?

[Desai] Well, let's have the constituent assembly. I don't know why we are wasting time. He says that those who come around the negotiating table must have a clear support base. Well, the best way to ascertain whether anybody's got a support base, is to go to the polls, and by secret ballot find out who's got the support of the country. We're prepared to do so, and if we lose, we're prepared to shake the hand of the winner. Isn't that democratic enough?

[De Preuter] Well, legal advisers say there are some constitutional problems in establishing a constituent assembly right now. Can you agree with that statement, or do you find it difficult to?

[Desai] Law is made by man. Man can make laws in order to facilitate how he wishes to live. There are no legal obstacles in my view, I am a qualified lawyer, I practiced for 20 years in England, I can see no reason why the people of this country shouldn't gather together in a democratic assembly and map out their future. [passage omitted] [end recording]

FIDA Comments

MB1912114490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1118 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—The government's persistence on one-on-one talks with the African National Congress [ANC] had seriously hampered efforts of other political groupings to establish their credibility as potential negotiating partners, according to the Federal Independent Democratic Alliance (FIDA).

In a statement on Wednesday [19 December], FIDA responded to President F.W. de Klerk's Christmas message, targetted specifically at the ANC's recent hard-line declaration on the future of constitutional negotiations.

Said FIDA: "The leadership of FIDA noted with satisfaction the state president's acknowledgement of the role other political entities have to play in the negotiating

process. For too long the perception has been created...that negotiations will take place between the National Party and the ANC.

"(This) hampered the efforts of other political groupings to establish their credibility as negotiating partners and precipitated the scurry to form alliances, regardless of political standpoint(s)."

FIDA argued that premature decisions, based on incomplete information, had served to strengthen extra-parliamentary civic associations rather than elected township councillors.

The government had to be cautioned, FIDA said, against acceding too readily to the demands of organisations like CAST (Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal), "who have clearly repeated their intention to force councillors to resign".

FIDA said a clear and cohesive plan of action was overdue to strengthen local government.

British Politicians View Sanctions, Investment

*MB2012090390 Johannesburg Television Service
in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Passages in quotation marks in English]

[Text] British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd says the Commonwealth cannot sit back and pretend that no changes have taken place in South Africa. Giving evidence before the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs about British policy towards South Africa, Mr. Hurd said today [19 Dec] that the Commonwealth would have to review its sanctions against South Africa in order to determine how the lifting of sanctions could help improve the situation in South Africa.

[Begin video recording] [Reporter Freek Robinson] Mr. Hurd made it clear that Britain's policy toward South Africa remained exactly the same under the new prime minister, Mr. John Major. It is aimed at breaking down apartheid, promoting democratic processes, and stimulating economic development. Therefore, he was delighted at the European Community's decision over the weekend to begin with the lifting of sanctions.

He firmly believes that the South African Government is committed to the abolition of apartheid, and that the EC should respond to that undertaking. He indicated that the European foreign ministers would meet next year to review the progress that has been made with reforms in South Africa so that further decisions on the lifting of sanctions can be taken.

He believes that a new government in South Africa should not be created to inherit an impoverished country. That is also the stance adopted by several other members of the committee, although they differ on the strategy regarding the lifting of sanctions.

[Conservative Party spokesman Bowen Wells] "Well, I think that's very encouraging, that he's managed to persuade our European partners also to lift sanctions on new investments. New investment is what South Africa desperately needs.

[Labor Party spokesman Ted Rowlands] "I don't think there's any difference of opinion on the principle of lifting sanctions at an appropriate moment in the process, in the peace process. My own view is that in fact this was premature, and that I think we should have seen the new legislation coming (?that) government has committed itself to next February. I believe that then would have been the time to really review the easing of sanctions."

[Robinson] Mrs. Linda Chalker, deputy minister of foreign affairs for Africa and overseas development, said Britain would in future like to provide more financial assistance to South Africa. Until now, this assistance was provided mainly to institutions outside the government, but in future it may even be channeled through a government. Education will remain the top priority for the British government, but there will be a growing endeavor to promote the democratic process by helping political parties to organize themselves and to train their officials.

[Wells] "I think the commitment of Britain to South Africa, in assisting South Africa in every way to build a new future for its people, is very evident from the session we had this morning.

[Rowlands] "I was deeply impressed and moved by the efforts that our own British Embassy has been making. They have pioneered what I call community diplomacy. I've never seen embassy diplomacy quite like it, as effectively done as that, and as I suggested to Mrs. Linda Chalker, I think if we doubled that particular aspect of our aid program ... surely, the sums of money are modest compared to the size of our overseas aid budget.

[Robinson] "Would you personally suggest in your report, coming out in February, that Britain should be more involved in aid, and also in the democratic process in South Africa?"

[Rowlands] "Because of the significant change, and the real commitment and integrity of State President De Klerk and the two architects of the peace process, he and Mr. Mandela, I do believe that we should get more and more involved. I think the very fact that our select committee visited—the Labor members of that committee were as committed to trying to search for solutions and finding in what ways British government policy and the British government aid program could assist in the process of achieving a peaceful settlement and the abolition of apartheid—shows that in fact there's now an all-party commitment to assist in the process in South Africa."

[Robinson] Following today's evidence, the Foreign Affairs Committee will begin to write its report. It will be a summary of its own research inside South Africa, and

the evidence heard here in Parliament. The report is expected to be published in February next year. [end recording]

Azapo To Hold 10th Conference in Cape Town

About 1,000 To Attend

MB1912150490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1423 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Report by Charl de Villiers]

[Text] Cape Town Dec 19 SAPA—The forging of strategies avoiding a neo-colonial settlement after the demise of apartheid is expected to dominate the 10th National Conference of the Azanian Peoples' Organisation [Azapo] in Cape Town at the weekend.

About 1,000 delegates would also be asked to discuss the foundations for a broad front of anti-apartheid organisations, Azapo Publicity Secretary Mr. Strini Moodley said on Wednesday [19 December].

Azapo was expected to disclose its practical guidelines for a constituent assembly, something which others "have not yet stated clearly", he said.

Mr. Moodley said delegates would debate and formulate a strategy which avoided a neo-colonial settlement acceptable to the international community, but did not address the "cardinal problems" in the country.

"These are poverty, landlessness, unemployment, the lack of proper education and housing. The most important question is what kind of economic strategies we need to address these fundamental problems."

The conference is scheduled for Saturday [22 December] and Sunday in the St. Francis Centre, Langa. The keynote speaker is Dr. Anbalavaner Sivanandan, of the British Institute of Race Relations.

Invitations have been extended to groupings like the African National Congress [ANC], Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], New Unity Movement [NUM], Congress of SA [South African] Trade Unions and National Council of Trade Unions.

PAC Vice-President Mr. Dikgang Moseneke would personally deliver a message to the conference, the PAC said in a statement on Wednesday.

On the question of unity, Mr. Moodley said the conference would look to all organisations in the broad liberation movement in line with Azapo's call for a consultative conference earlier this year.

"The appeal for such a conference was not successful, but at least we have secured agreement in principle from the ANC, PAC, NUM and Workers Organisation for Socialist Action for discussions to lay the foundation for a broad front."

Azapo was among the organisations which criticised the ANC for entering negotiations without a mandate from non-charterist groupings.

Criticizes De Klerk

MB2012085090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0827 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] Cape Town Dec 20 SAPA—President F.W. de Klerk was not interested in changing apartheid, only altering its face, Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] Publicity Secretary Mr Strini Moodley said on Thursday [20 December].

Mr de Klerk had shown a "very clever sleight of hand" by demonstrating that he wanted change when, in fact, he wanted to retain power, Mr Moodley told a press conference.

"Mr de Klerk's mandate is to ensure the continued domination of the National Party and white society."

The state president was "buying off people" for support because the "homelands have failed him miserably". "He is looking for other partners, he says all the right things."

But Mr de Klerk was not interested in black people. "If he was, there would not be this kind of violence," said Mr Moodley.

Liberation Movements Discussed

MB2012091890 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0856 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] Cape Town Dec 20 SAPA—Recent rank and file criticism of the African National Congress [ANC] would hopefully make the ANC less hostile towards a consultative conference of liberation organisations, Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] Vice-President Mr Peter Jones said on Thursday [20 December].

Speaking at a press briefing before Azapo's 10th national conference, Mr Jones said partially representative talks between liberation movements and the government would not solve internecine violence.

These organisations needed to meet on a representative forum in order to have the capacity to intervene and resolve conflict by peaceful means.

The release of ANC Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela and the ANC's "party with Mr (F.W.) de Klerk" had not brought about the conditions for peace, he said.

Azapo had formally adopted a position towards a meeting between liberation movements, involving the ANC, Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] and others to move towards a consultative conference.

The PAC had already agreed to this, but a date needed to be set.

Mr Strini Moodley, Azapo publicity secretary, said the PAC and ANC, meeting separately the Bishops court peace summit [as received] organised by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, had agreed to discuss a consultative conference.

Mr Jones said criticism of the ANC leadership by grassroots members at its recent consultative conference would hopefully make that organisation less hostile to meeting with others.

Not 'To Budge' on Negotiations

*MB2012095690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0932 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[By Charl de Villiers]

[Text] Cape Town Dec 20 SAPA—The Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] would not budge from its refusal to take part in negotiations when its 10th national conference met in Cape Town at the weekend, said Azapo Publicity Secretary Mr Strini Moodley.

"We are not going to waste our time negotiating," he told a press briefing on Thursday [20 December].

Key issues facing the conference included strategies for stopping and discouraging violence in the black community and ways of preventing a "neo-colonial sell-out solution".

An "aggressive programme of political action for 1991 for members of Azapo to engage in at grassroots level" would also have to be decided on, said Mr Moodley.

The programme was meant to overcome the "paralysis and depoliticisation which the negotiations euphoria has produced".

Mr Moodley said Azapo's opposition to talks with the National Party government had been endorsed at its March conference after consultation with the exiled Black Consciousness Movement of Azania.

Azapo Vice-President Mr Peter Jones said the organisation remained committed to a consultative conference between liberation organisations which would decide on future strategy.

Mr Ambalavaner Sivanandan, director of the British Institute of Race Relations, will deliver the keynote address at the conference on Saturday morning.

Mr Moodley said Mr Sivanandan's writings had a "resonance among those who fight racism", including organisations like Azapo and proponents of black consciousness.

Mr Sivanandan, a Sri Lankan who has worked in the United Kingdom for the past 25 years, said he saw racial oppression as complementing class exploitation.

He asked the press not to refer to his doctoral title, as this was how "rightwingers" in Britain referred to him.

The two-day conference takes place in the St Francis Centre, Langa, and starts at 10AM with Azapo President Prof Jerry Mosala's "state of the nation" address.

It is open to the public, who have a right to attend, said Mr Moodley.

De Klerk Said Same As Verwoerd

*MB2012084290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0825 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Text] Cape Town Dec 20 SAPA—There was no difference between President F.W. de Klerk and former Prime Minister Dr H.F. Verwoerd, Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] Publicity Secretary Mr Strini Moodley said on Thursday [20 December].

Addressing a press conference on the eve of Azapo's 10th national conference, Mr Moodley said Mr de Klerk only opened political space "as far as he allows".

The state president's threats against political violence on television on Tuesday [18 December] night reinforced the Azapo position that Mr de Klerk's mandate was to ensure the "continued domination of the National Party and white rule".

"His utterings on television simply reinforce the Azapo view that F.W. de Klerk is not different from Verwoerd," said Mr Moodley.

"(Mr de Klerk) uses the velvet glove, but now he wants to take it off. He thinks he is back in control."

While Dr Verwoerd implemented bantu education in the early 1960s, Mr de Klerk had admitted that white education was superior by opening white schools to black pupils.

"Before that, white people had to take the decision (whether to open schools or not). It is no different from what Verwoerd did in 1961," said Mr Moodley.

"F.W. de Klerk has given handouts; he is not sincere. He is buying time. If he repeals the Group Areas Act, 95 per cent of black people will not be able to move from their hovels.

"The poor will always be black and the rich will always be white," he said.

ANC Radio Comments on Consultative Congress

*EA1912195490 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom
in English to South Africa 1900 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[Text] Compatriots, the message coming out from last weekend's consultative conference of the ANC [African National Congress] is loud and clear. It is that we are called [words indistinct] to force the apartheid regime to move fast and remove all the obstacles which are in the way to negotiations. The message says we must mount

the biggest offensive yet, that we must press home that message not only in words but in mass militant actions on the ground.

For too long we have waited only to have our expectations quashed. When the apartheid president, F.W. de Klerk, made his announcement on the 2d February this year, he subsequently met with the ANC [words indistinct]. Our whole (?country) was bubbling over with expectation and hopes that at last our country was to be at peace with itself. We were expecting that years of conflict that have claimed so many lives were to be brought to an end. Both at [name indistinct] and Pretoria, historic agreements were reached between the representatives of the ANC and those of the Pretoria regime. F.W. de Klerk was famed as a man of integrity, a man who could help change the face of our country.

Yet today, as we approach the end of the year, we can see that nothing much has changed. The promises made to the people of South Africa are yet to be fulfilled. Indeed, it has been both a period of (?continuing) expectations and despair for the overwhelming majority of the South African people. What the consultative conference of the ANC has vowed therefore is nothing extraordinary, as some have speculated.

The ANC belongs to the people. It is the people's movement. Whatever the mood of the people, the ANC has to reflect that in its own strategy. The conference therefore, was the reflection of the angry mood of our people, who are indeed impatient for liberation.

Our people are right to be impatient for liberation. The people are correct to demand freedom now. They are right to demand that the ANC as their movement should act now so that their dreams are realized today and not tomorrow. That is what our people are demanding now and that is what the ANC is out to do now. We can no longer wait hoping that the apartheid regime will eventually see reason and move first in the direction clearing all the obstacles. We cannot allow the apartheid regime to move at a snail's pace to release our comrades still languishing in apartheid jails. Nor can we allow the regime to dictate terms to us for the return of the thousands of (?our) activists still in exile.

We have now decided to embark upon what is only open to us. Our ultimatum to the De Klerk regime to remove all the obstacles by the 30th April is not a threat or a blackmail. It is up to the apartheid regime to heed the message coming out of the conference. It is up to De Klerk to act now before it is too late.

On our part, as we have already stated, we have both the capacity and the will to press home the attack for the realization and the meeting of the expectations of our people. De Klerk has the possibility of either taking our country [word indistinct] towards the road of peace and harmony for all our people, or to remain blind and [word indistinct] our country into another crisis. He has the

possibility of being hailed as one who has (?foresight) enough or one who created disaster for the entire country.

[Text] We are saying the choice is entirely his. We shall as from now plunge into action. We shall by doing so assisting him to move fast as we have always done. [sentence as heard]. The offensive we shall and must launch will be widespread, covering every inch of our country. Whereas we shall, as we have done in the past, try to conduct ourselves in a peaceful and disciplined manner, it is again up to the apartheid regime to act similarly to ensure that violence is avoided.

The continuing violence in our country is the sole responsibility of the apartheid regime and its (?partners). The continuing (?and coming) mass militant actions of the people are as a result of the apartheid regime's refusal to heed the verdict of the masses, and say: Away with the apartheid-created local councils, their unaffordable rents and [word indistinct] charges, the (?permissive) attitude of the regime towards right-wing violence and other form of provocations directed against the people. Our people are saying now: Enough is enough, this far and no further.

This is the message that we are (?daily) conveying in the military struggle. This is a message we want to continue to (?press home), because the message we continue to receive from the apartheid regime is not that of hope as they try to convince us. It is, to us, a message of stubbornness that has characterized successive white minority regimes. [music]

Compatriots, indeed the actions of the De Klerk regime over the past 11 months have been (?etched in) [words indistinct] nothing else but despair. It is in this context that we must plan our actions and make it clear that we still hold the initiative firmly in our hands. The battleground on which we engage the apartheid regime now and in the coming period of mass actions must encompass each and every facet of the apartheid system.

[Word indistinct] the continuing imprisonment of thousands of our comrades, the continuing refusal of the apartheid regime to allow for the immediate return of our brothers and sisters in exile. Our battle must be aimed directly at all levels of the apartheid administration such as housing, health, education, and social welfare. We have to confront the regime exactly on [word indistinct] which is our demand for an (?elected) constituent assembly and the interim government.

How long should the regime dictate terms to the people? How long should they remain [word indistinct] in the process in which they are players as well? The (?full justice) which we now have, the unbanning of our organizations, are all victories we scored in struggle; we did not wait for the regime to offer us these victories on a silver plate, but (?we did) struggle to realize them. For the rest of our demands to be met, we shall require the same tenacity and determination that forced the regime to give ground on these issues.

The first task we face is to ensure that our [word indistinct] for the struggle, the organizations of the people are sharpened, ready, and capable of leading the people into a continuing offensive against the apartheid regime. Chief among these is to take the ANC and its message to every household so as to ensure that every household becomes an ANC stronghold. We have to ensure that all attempts by the apartheid regime to weaken the ANC and [words indistinct] in our movement [words indistinct], then we shall continue attacks against the regime itself. We have to press home the message that the responsibility to end the violence lies squarely on the shoulders of the apartheid regime. It is after all the apartheid regime and security forces [word indistinct] these marauding bands of killers to sow death and destruction in our communities.

Our organized mass militant actions must be such as to drive home this point to the regime. Of course, in anticipation of our coming offensive, the regime has prepared its own defenses. But our own actions are planned exactly to overwhelm those defenses of the regime.

Too many of our people have died at a time when the apartheid regime has made too many promises which remain unfulfilled. The policies of the De Klerk regime have turned out to be only [words indistinct] and smiles, but (?tend) to demobilize the people at a time when more action is required. Therefore, we need (?mass) action, action for the release of all political prisoners and the return of all the exiles; action for the April constituent assembly and an interim government; action for the disbanding of all the apartheid structures. Forward to mass actions for the transfer of power!

Sansco Says De Klerk 'Plotting' To Split ANC

MB1912152290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1501 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—A militant students' movement accused President F.W. de Klerk of plotting to drive a wedge between the African National Congress [ANC] and its supporters, and warned a commitment to negotiations was not a pledge that could not be reversed.

"The commitment to peace is not that of the leadership of the ANC, but of the people as a whole. The leadership of the ANC embodies the will of the people," Mr. Mike Koyana, president of the the South African National Students Congress [Sansco], said in a statement.

He said while pledging free political activity, the government had expressed disapproval of mass campaigns in attempt to "divide the leadership of the ANC from the masses. The mandate of our leadership to talk to the government is clear and unquestionable, we are committed to a peaceful settlement, but that commitment is not a religion," Mr. Koyana said.

He called on students to "marshal their forces and intensify the struggle on all fronts," in terms of the hardline stance taken by the ANC at its recent congress.

Anglo American, Lonrho May Lose Zimbabwe Land

MB1912115190 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 19 Dec 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zimbabwe Could Seize Anglo's Land Next"]

[Text] Harare—Multinational companies with farmland holdings in Zimbabwe would have them confiscated by government in terms of the controversial new land programme, senior sources in the ruling Zanu (PF) [Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front)] Party said yesterday.

SA's [South Africa] Anglo American Corp, the London-based Lonrho company, the US-based Union Carbide and the British-Dutch Unilever are estimated to own at least 5 percent of national farmland, in operation that cover highly developed irrigation estates, forestry plantations and extensive cattle and game ranches, SAPA reports.

The sources said Agriculture Minister Witness Mangwende told a meeting of the Zanu (PF) central committee at the weekend that legislation was being drafted aimed at taking the multinationals' land.

The sources said the development was part of government's policy that foreigners should not be allowed to own land.

Last week Parliament approved an amendment to the constitution adding to the government's powers of confiscation by allowing it to choose its own price for compensation, and barring affected land-owners from contesting the figure in court.

The land policy, announced in July, states that foreigners would be "encouraged" to sell their land, which in turn would be leased back to them over a long period, but observers were surprised that Mangwende referred specifically to the multinational companies, and at his firmness that they would lose their land.

The land policy also rules out absentee landlord ownership except in special cases, ownership of more than one farm, and proposes limits to the size of farms.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill established the principles by which government could confiscate land, legal experts said, and the next move would be amending the Land Acquisition Act, which provided the procedures for seizing land, to fit in with the new policy.

Sources confirmed that land was owned by all cabinet members (and some owned several farms), but their ownership was disguised by putting it in the name of a relative.

—Anglo American refused to comment last night.

Freedom Foundation Urges New Economic Policies

MB1912120490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1123 GMT 19 Dec 90

[SAPA PR Wire Service: Issued by the International Freedom Foundation, Wednesday December 19: "International Freedom Foundation (IFF) Report Recommends Radical Reassessment of South Africa's Tax Structure"]

[Text] Johannesburg [dateline as received]—In a report released here today, the Southern African branch of the International Freedom Foundation (IFF) calls for a radical reassessment of South Africa's current tax structure, and for "South Africans to be told that their economic salvation lies not with the state, but with the market place."

The report, entitled: "Reassessing South Africa's Tax Structure", recommends that a more free market perspective be reflected in South Africa's tax structure, and that taxation "should be pegged at a level sufficient to provide only for the defence, law and order, and legal framework of a free society."

While conceding that, "in the politically-charged climate in South Africa today, such arguments are not popularly received", the report says that what is required is an understanding "that the state's heavy interventionist role in society does not constitute the provision of natural individual rights, but rather subjective value-laden social rights". These, it says, require "a measure of coercion by the state to extract monies from one sector of society to 'compensate' another sector."

One of the main recommendations of the report is for a new taxation strategy "which 'compensates', via reduced taxation, those individuals who would rather 'opt out' of relying on state welfare benefits". "This system," the report argues, "would simultaneously satisfy black economic demands and allay white fears of crippling taxation, while massively reducing the tax burden on individuals."

The report says that the "opt out" principle would also help combat the "dependency trap" mentality of most taxpayers - who mistakenly believe that the state can provide better services than they themselves could obtain with their own money in the private sector.

"Taxpayers should be given a choice to assume control over their own affairs. To encourage such a process, social welfare services sought in the private sector must be made tax deductible. Such a strategy would result in individuals voluntarily opting out of demanding certain benefits from the state, without incurring a political cost to government", the report emphasises.

The report says that the provision of social welfare services by the private sector is always more efficient than when provided by the state - where half of every one rand paid to the state disappears into a bottomless pit of

state salaries, red tape, and administrative incompetence. "If the taxpayer were to take the money he pays in taxes to the state, and spend it instead on obtaining the same services in the private sector, the benefits derived would be far greater", the report stresses.

According to Warwick Davies-Webb, the director of projects and research at the IFF's southern African office, a number of benefits would arise from the implementation of the "opt out" principle. These include:

- A. South Africa's tax rates would once again reach globally competitive levels.,
- B. Political pressure would be reduced for either the current government, or any future government, to provide state welfare benefits.,
- C. Over R[and]7.5 billion in state revenue would be released back into the private sector, boosting considerably the country's saving base and the private sector's ability to provide efficient social services., and
- D. State intervention in the economy would be effectively curbed.

The report concludes that the "opt out" principle provides an opportunity for people to pursue an individual ethic., provides a positive alternative to the "zero sum" option during South Africa's difficult transitional process towards a new political order., and serves to lessen the role of the state in society by focusing government priorities on curbing "absolute poverty", with the objective of finally making itself concerned only with the provision of the defence, law and order and legal framework of society.

Based in Washington D.C., with branch offices in London, Brussels, Hamburg and Johannesburg, the International Freedom Foundation is a non-profit, educational foundation which works to expand free markets and individual rights throughout the world.

Zimbabwe To Exchange Corn for Motor Vehicles

MB1912115990 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 19 Dec 90 p 1

[Report by Adrian Oosthuizen: "SA Barter Cars for Neighbour's Maize"]

[Text] Harare—Zimbabwe is to exchange its maize for South African motor vehicles in a counter trade deal worth as much as US\$50m [million].

It will be the first deal of its kind between the two countries since 1980.

Zimbabwe's weekly FINANCIAL GAZETTE reported last week that the final go ahead depended on whether the maize seed passed SA [South African] Maize Board tests.

As long as Zimbabwe receives good rains, delivery of a minimum consignment of 200,000 [metric] tons of maize will begin in March and, if successful, will be increased to 400,000 tons. Although SA has sufficient

maize to satisfy local demand, the Zimbabwean maize will be used to supplement export orders. It will be delivered to the northern Transvaal.

In return, Zimbabwe will import 2,000 Nissan car kits and 300 heavy duty trucks, backed by spares worth US\$11m. The vehicles will be assembled by Leyland Zimbabwe.

Earlier, Nissan proposed sending refurbished second-hand Skylines, but the Zimbabwean government rejected the offer as it did not want to import used cars.

The GAZETTE reported that the package faced snags, as multinational company Lonrho was keen to obtain a stake in the deal to import luxury Mercedes cars. It appears this part of the deal depends on whether SA takes the full consignment of 400,000 tons.

Country Could Play 'Key' Chernobyl Role

MB2012093290 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0900 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] South Africa could play a key role in the ongoing struggle by the Soviet Union to overcome the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986.

This is the view of group executive of the community health research unit of the Medical Research Council, Dr. (Derrick Yach), who visited the Soviet Union to discuss links between South Africa and the Soviet Union in a number of fields.

He said that the Chernobyl disaster was still having a devastating psychological and social effect on the Soviet population.

He said the Soviets had indicated a need for a joint project between Ukrainian health officials and South African health psychologists coordinated by the South African Medical Research Council.

Economists Predicts 50,000 To Be Laid Off in '91

MB1912125990 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 19 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[Report by Charlotte Mathews, Marc Hasenfuss, and Gareth Bell: "50,000 Job Losses Predicted for 1990"]

[Text] Retrenchments in all non-agricultural sectors in SA could reach 50,000 next year, says Bankorp chief economist Nick Barnardt.

He based his projection on Reserve Bank figures in the latest QUARTERLY REVIEW.

The figures showed that the seasonally adjusted index of employment in the non-agricultural sectors declined by 0.5 percent to 109.7 percent in the second quarter of 1990 from 110.3 percent in the first quarter.

This translates into an actual employment figure of about 5.45-million in the second quarter from 5.48-million in the first quarter, showing that nearly 30,000 people left employment or were retrenched in that period.

Barnardt said although statistical evidence was lacking, anecdotal information suggested that the drop in employment continued into the third quarters, and new entrants into the labour market should be added to these figures to give a total unemployment picture.

An unconfirmed estimate is that about 300,000 people enter the labour market each year.

"Adding to this problem is not only the decline in production in the economy but also the sharp increase in the cost of labour as a result of higher wage demands.

"In 1991 we believe the economy will shrink further but wage demands will continue to exceed the rate of inflation, adding a further negative dimension to the overall employment figure. So we are forecasting at least a 1 percent decline in employment next year, which translates into another 50,000 to 55,000 people laid off."

Barnardt's estimates were confirmed by Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of SA (SEIFSA) industrial relations division manager Patrick Shortt, who estimated between 20,000 and 30,000 retrenchments had taken place in these industries in the past three months.

This represents 6 percent to 9 percent of the total employment of 330,000 in the iron, steel, metal and engineering industries.

Shortt added that a number of companies had retrenched before the shutdown period but others were probably waiting to see if orders would come in in the new year.

Employment in the mining industry has dropped by 80,700 since June 1987, when the number of employed peaked at 527,000, according to the Chamber of Mines (CoM).

Retrenchments, mainly in the gold mining industry, amounted to 43,000 workers during the 15-month period from June 1989 to November 1990, CoM statistics showed.

CoM external relations GM [general manager] Johann Liebenberg said the rand/dollar exchange rates and gold price, coupled with escalating working costs, could result in even more jobs being lost next year.

Andrew Levy & Associates (ALA) senior consultant Brian Allen said sample testing suggested retrenchments had escalated in the second half of 1990.

SOWETAN Survey Finds Readers Pro-ANC

MB1912123290 Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English
19 Dec 90 p 3

[Report by Helen Grange: "SOWETAN Readers Would Vote ANC"]

[Text] Although many view THE SOWETAN newspaper as supportive of the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], a survey among its readers shows a clear preference for the African National Congress [ANC].

The survey, conducted by Marketing and Media Research into the attitudes of a broad cross-section of THE SOWETAN readers, has found that 75 percent of the newspaper's readers would vote for the African National Congress in a general election, while only four percent would vote for the PAC.

No PAC supporting readers believe THE SOWETAN supports the PAC.

Seventy-two percent of THE SOWETAN readers believe the paper is independent of political organisations, while 26 percent believe it supports a particular organisation.

Of the 26 percent, over 80 percent believe the paper supports the ANC, while under 20 percent believe it supports the PAC.

According to the survey, an overwhelming 94 percent of THE SOWETAN's readers think negotiation is a good thing.

It is interesting that 97 percent of ANC supporters feel negotiations are a good thing, compared with 61 percent of PAC supporters. This means that 39 percent of PAC supporting readers do not support negotiation.

It is nonetheless interesting that the majority of PAC supporters do agree with the idea of negotiation.

Nearly 80 percent of readers feel the ANC should be the primary party in negotiations. Inkatha was included at the negotiation table by both ANC and PAC supporting readers, indicating that although there is distrust in Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, there should be a multi-party presence in their opinion.

Inkatha however, would only get 0.7 percent of THE SOWETAN readers' votes while the SA [South African] Communist Party [SACP] would get only 0.5 percent.

Sixty-eight percent of readers trust and believe President de Klerk while 78 percent trust and believe Nelson Mandela. Zeph Mothopeng of the PAC gets the trust and belief of 22 percent of readers, 78 percent of which group are PAC supporters.

Chief Buthelezi is least trusted, with 81 percent of readers mistrusting him.

Most readers (59 percent) feel very hopeful about South Africa's future, while 29 percent are not very hopeful. ANC supporters are more hopeful than PAC supporters.

Asked how long it would take before a black government is in power, 26 percent of readers estimated six to 10 years' time. Another majority group gave it four to five years.

Twelve percent of readers believe it will never happen, most of them (52 percent) saying the reason is blacks fighting and killing each other. Twenty three percent of this group believe the whites will never allow a black government, while 12 percent say blacks can not succeed without education and skills.

A majority of SOWETAN readers believe apartheid and equality for blacks and whites is the single most important issue to be dealt with to save the country.

Political Prisoners 'Dissatisfied' Over Accord

MB1812104590 Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY*
in English 18 Dec 90 p 3

[Report by Tim Cohen: "Political Prisoners 'Dissatisfied'"]

[Text] The release of political prisoners cannot take place by April because, among other things, prisoners appear to be dissatisfied with the agreement concluded by government and the ANC [African National Congress], says a new body established by two legal organisations.

The new body, the Political Prisoner Release Programme, was established by Lawyers for Human Rights and National Association of Democratic Lawyers (Nadel) to facilitate the release of prisoners.

The memorandum motivating the establishment of the body makes it clear that government is not solely to blame for the slow pace of the releases.

Problems in identifying political prisoners, the prerequisite that the organisation of which the prisoners is a member must endorse the release and the limited resources of the liberation movements have played a role in the hold-ups, the memorandum says.

Government and the ANC agreed on guidelines for the release of political prisoners in the Pretoria Minute in August this year, but fewer than 100 prisoners have been released so far.

At its consultative conference at the weekend, the ANC resolved that if the obstacles contained in the Harare Declaration, including the release of all political prisoners, were not removed by April 30, it would consider suspending the whole negotiation process.

But in its memorandum, the Political Prisoner Release Programme says its view is that it will not be possible to

complete the release of political prisoners by April. It suggests the releases could be completed by June.

The memorandum notes that there could be as many as 3,000 political prisoners, while government puts the figure at between 300 and 600.

Some of the dissatisfaction with the agreement concluded by government and the ANC arises from the lack of consultation prior to and after the signing of the agreement, the memorandum says. As a result, some prisoners have refused to sign the indemnity forms.

Prisoners are also concerned at the powers given to the President and there is a perception that the consulting body is powerless and acts only in an advisory capacity.

The memorandum says the only category of persons who qualify for indemnity as a group are those who left SA [South Africa] without going through recognised border posts, although the legislation makes provision for the categories to be extended.

Such an extension would facilitate the release process in that large groups of prisoners would qualify for release without having to apply individually.

Consideration is being given to applying for the extension of the categories to include offences such as treason, sedition, public violence, malicious damage to property, intimidation, arson, possession of arms and explosives, sabotage and Internal Security Act and Defence Act offences.

The new body has also called on the Justice Department to assist in identifying political prisoners.

20 Dec Press Review on Current Problems, Issues MB2012115190

[Editorial report]

THE STAR

Less Shouting Needed From ANC, Government—Despite the "belligerent tone" of the African National Congress (ANC) consultative conference and the government's need to "respond toughly," "neither side is doing anything directly to sabotage negotiation," notes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 20 December in a page 22 editorial. So far it is "a war of words" but both sides should "cool it now." "Since both the Government and the ANC have stated, forcefully, their preference for peace, we believe both parties now have an obligation to seek peace vigorously. This means less shouting and more constructive, visible talking. It is time for leaders to practise damage control lest their followers receive too many wrong signals from the tom-toms."

Kaunda Gives Up Power 'With Bad Grace'—"Dr. Kaunda is giving up exclusive power unwillingly and with bad grace," declares a second editorial on the same page. "He is bowing to a growing public demand rather than accepting multiparty governance as something that

might help to save his country from the economic mess in which UNIP [United National Independence Party] has landed it." Zambia's "exercise in democracy" is "despite, rather than because of Dr. Kaunda's efforts."

BUSINESS DAY

De Klerk Message Challenges ANC Strategy—President De Klerk's Christmas message broadcast on television on 18 December "reflected the concerns of most South Africans, even though he cannot claim to represent them all," notes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 20 December. He "challenged many fundamentals of ANC tactics and strategy—and he gave as good as he got from the ANC's conference resolutions." BUSINESS DAY believes that "whatever the extenuating circumstance—the ANC shows an absence of the subtlety and sophistication one might reasonably expect from a potential government in waiting." It is noted that by criticizing continued ANC demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government because they "pre-empted the negotiating process," De Klerk "seemed to imply that almost anything is negotiable and therefore that mass action on these issues is, at least, premature. It is time for these talks about talks to begin."

U.S. 'Bankrolling' Political Parties—"Attempts by the United States to bankroll democratic changes in South Africa are in a mess," affirms a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 20 December. The U.S. Congress voted 10 million dollars to support programs to encourage negotiations, "and the ANC hoped to get the whole whack." Because government was concerned about giving aid to political parties a "compromise proposal" was reached. "Concern over funding political parties has now led congressional members to demand that steps be taken to ensure that the money is properly spent and accounted for. In particular, the ANC's and Inkatha's abilities to use the funds efficiently are in question. The real problem, though, remains the involvement of a foreign power in bankrolling political parties. If money is available it should be allocated specifically for non-party political areas, such as education and welfare."

SOWETAN

Criticism of De Klerk 'Uncompromising' Christmas Message—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 20 December in its page 6 editorial notes President De Klerk's "tough and uncompromising stance" in his Christmas message to the nation. If the message was to be "more effective" De Klerk "should have addressed specifically those parties, including the police and Inkatha, who are accused of being part of the problem." "The message would have come out stronger and better if he had mentioned all the elements that have led to success and disaster in this difficult transitional period. Because this did not happen, the speech from the throne sounded uncannily like something from the past, and more seriously, playing the political game."

*** CP: NP Policy Leading to Third World Regime**

91AF0257A Pretoria DIE PATRIOT in Afrikaans
5 Oct 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Struggle for Values"]

[Text] The Democratic Party is obviously on the road to ruin. Until a few months ago, still a political party with an apparently certain future, it has in the meantime been cold-bloodedly divested of its policy by the National Party [NP], and then run into the ground by incompetent and clumsy leaders.

The process of fragmentation and reorganization that began in 1959 with the emergence of the then-Progressive Party and was continued with the founding of the Reconstituted National Party in 1969, the disbanding of the United Party in 1977, the emergence of the National Conservative Party in 1979, and the founding of the Conservative Party in 1989, is now entering into its final phase. This phase is the reestablishment of the bipolar nature of South African party politics with only two important parties: One, the Conservative Party [CP], committed to the principles of Afrikaner nationalism, and the other, the National Party, with a multiracial South African system as its ideal.

The restructuring of white party politics was inevitable and long-predicted, simply because there have always been just two options, Afrikaner nationalism and South Africanism. The white voter is thus offered a simple choice between freedom for the Afrikaner and his kindred souls of other languages versus the National Party's policy of "reform."

Unlike its spiritual predecessors, however, the National Party is not itself planning to give shape to its future image of a unified state constructed on the principle of a broad South Africanism. In order to achieve this goal, it in fact wants to cede power to a large black majority that in the near future will have an overwhelming numerical superiority. The National Party says explicitly that the government for which it is tirelessly laboring must reflect the country's population—thus, five, six or perhaps even seven non-whites in the cabinet for each white.

Despite its plan for an overwhelmingly non-white cabinet, the National Party wants to give mandates to this future black-dominated government with almost complete permanence. Through all sorts of bulwark provisions in the constitution, checks and counterweights, and a manifesto of human rights, the National Party wants to bind future governments (in which at most only a few whites will serve) to maintaining its current principles of democracy, an independent judiciary, a free press, free expression of opinion, a free market system, and Afrikaans as an official language. Thus, a government of predominantly Third World people must apply and preserve First World values!

Naturally, the hard truth is that there is not a grain of evidence of these Third World people's loyalty to First World values—and it is moreover racist to make such a demand of blacks. (Why can't Third World people honor Third World standards?)

This demand that the National Party is making of the "New South Africa's" future cabinet ignores the essential nature of politics: Political struggle is about nothing other than the application of a specific value system, and in order to be able to do this, power must be taken over. Losers never succeed in having their values applied by the winners. And to try to obligate the political winner to implement any values other than his own is simply futile, especially in Africa.

While South Africa is thus quickly moving back to a two-party system as far as whites are concerned, this arrangement still does not offer the white voter a choice between two options. Because the alternative, the "New South Africa" being held up by the National Party, is false and dishonest, because that party has, in fact, decided not to be in a position of power in order to apply its policy.

The actual political choice is thus between white self-government and Azania, an Azania that is completely committed to Third World values, just like any other African state. This is why the Conservative Party calls on all whites to choose First World values, kept in place by First World people. Because, above and beyond a struggle for freedom, our political struggle is also a struggle for values.

*** CP: Sanctions Lifting Tradeoff for Black Rule**

91AF0257B Pretoria DIE PATRIOT in Afrikaans
5 Oct 90 p 8

[Article by Z.B. du Toit: "An Unholy Alliance Is Settling in Against the Afrikaner"]

[Text] It should come as a surprise to no one that members of the European Community could soon begin lifting sanctions against South Africa. The surprise is that it has taken so long for this to happen.

Political observers have long expected that Western countries will begin to reward the South African government for its plan to accept a black government, because that reward is in truth an indispensable part of the entire process of ending white political power in South Africa. Indeed, in every Western capital it has been recognized for some time now that help will have to be afforded to the South African government from those places in order to effect a peaceful transition to black rule.

This knowledge is based on the danger that vehement white resistance could hamper the end of white political power. Once white people realize that they face a dark future under a Third World government and that all the government's talk about entrenched rights is utter nonsense, the entire transition could very easily go awry.

This is why whites in South Africa must be made to believe that the government's policy is to their advantage. Credibility must be given to the fallacy that whites will be able to get on peaceably with their lives under black rule and that there will even be new opportunities to make money once the albatross of political power is discarded.

The U.S. visit by State President Mr. F.W. de Klerk was the first installment of this very grievous trickery. Something that recently seemed utterly impossible did in fact happen: A white head of state of the Republic of South Africa was invited by the government of the United States of America to visit that country—the same United States that is applying extensive sanctions (an act of economic warfare) against South Africa.

The invitation and the subsequent visit were significant acts in the subtle propaganda war against the white man, and especially the Afrikaner. The thousands with a weak national self-image must have been impressed by an F.W. de Klerk being received by the U.S. Secretary of State, an F.W. de Klerk having the red carpet rolled out for him at the White House, an F.W. de Klerk addressing a news conference together with the most powerful man in the world... Little treats parcelled out to the Afrikaner in order to make the loss of political power just a little more bearable...

The de Klerk visit to the United States apparently put an end to the government's most difficult era in terms of its relations with the West—the era when segregation measures were scrapped without any rewards from the West. Poor Mr. P.W. Botha was the most prominent victim of this thankless period: He chopped away in vain at the roots of white society in order to gain recognition from Washington, London, Bonn, and Paris.

However, the West quite clearly decided that Mr. de Klerk is the man who will hand over the Afrikaner's political head on a platter. And Mr. de Klerk is naturally more than eager to play this game together with the West; he literally swooned before the Afrikaner's enemies in Washington and supports the United States in practically everything.

Mr. de Klerk's agreeability, even his prostration before the Americans, is understandable: The White House is throwing a life buoy out to him against the furious Afrikaner crowds, such as those at Vryheid; he is being given ammunition against a Conservative Party whose support is apparently growing continuously.

Thus, get ready for an extension of this strategy, as the lifting of sanctions by European countries already indicates. The West knows that Mr. de Klerk has now entered into an extremely difficult phase, and it will resolve to leave no stone unturned in making his job easier. Spectacular actions will be chosen in order to impress the white electorate. Such as the lifting of those sanctions that will most stimulate economic growth in

South Africa; possibly a visit by an All Black or Leeu rugby team, perhaps even a small-scale Olympic Games...

For its part, the government will raise a shout of joy, and exaggerate and inflate each step in order to convince the Afrikaner of how advantageous political surrender actually is.

The Afrikaner is facing what is probably one of the most shameful episodes in his history: The collusion between a so-called Afrikaner government and the nation's greatest enemies in order to destroy the Afrikaner's power...

* Afrikaners' Right to Exist Defended Biblically

91AF0257C Pretoria *DIE PATRIOT in Afrikaans*
5 Oct 90 p 9

[Article by Conservative Party leader Dr A.P. Treurnicht: "The Theology of Suicide"; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] A certain misinterpretation of Christianity is being applied by some theologians in order to strip the Afrikaner of his rights as a nation. However, it is unbiblical for a nation to seek its own death.

Every now and then, a new theology emerges. Naturally, it is a bit drastic to speak of suicide theology, which is why this calls for clarification.

It is not that there is not a certain amount of piety contained in that view, but it must be shown that this can be a piety gone astray.

A couple of references will suffice. One is that in relation to God, the awe-inspiring and the Almighty, all created things are insignificant, including man. The truly humble attitude is: He is everything, man is nothing. Only once man is nothing is he acceptable, or useful, or truly pious, Christian.

Naturally, there is no comparison between the Creator and the creation. Any effort to make man independent from, or elevate him with respect to God must be summarily condemned as preposterous.

But such an acknowledgment still does not account for what God has made of man, or for what status or office He has given him. Let us simply reiterate: Without God's stamp of value on him, man is insignificant. But it is precisely this stamp of value that God places on him, specifically, being in God's own image, being the child of God, "a little lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet..." (Psalms 8:6,7)—all of this means that man, created by God, crowned by God, called by God, has an authority that he must preserve among, and even towards, other created beings. He should not think of himself more highly than he ought to think (Romans 12:3). Nor should he think less of himself than what is

appropriate for a believer who lives in the Spirit of God. He is on the lookout, dominantly active within the space of God's creation.

The zeal to recognize human rights is commendable insofar as it protects human dignity against the abuse of power, mass fixation, government domination and constraint, and religious constraint. The objection to a certain emphasis on human rights is that these rights are made self-supporting without reference to God, or without reference to the other configurations that God has ordained, namely the family, the Church, the nation, the authorities.

Overemphasizing the "insignificance" of man can divest the individual of his dignity and authority as a child of God, as prophet, priest, and king. It can undermine his faith in his conscience, his courage to withstand intimidation, his heroism against threats, his struggle for freedom against usurpers.

I would like to refer to certain Bible passages. "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." (John 12:24). "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." (Matthew 16:25).

Here, we find the profound truths surrounding the redeeming death of Christ, the necessity that He give up His life for His chosen people, since otherwise they could not inherit Eternal Life. The man who wants to lead his life without Christ and is not willing to even give up his life for Him cannot be His disciple.

However, the question is whether this also means the following: You cannot consult a doctor, use medicine or food, defend against an assailant, arm yourself, call in the police, have an army, defend borders against an attacker, objugate ideologies that threaten the church and your community, preserve and defend your family, promote the welfare of your nation and promote its survival and freedom in service to the Lord, and so on. Is suicide now honorable, and is self-defense now sinful and un-Christian? This is not what the Bible teaches us.

On various occasions, church people in recent times have brought to our attention how Professor Murray Janson and his kindred spirits are implying that if you want to preserve yourself as an Afrikaner you are not a Christian. And the standard quote here is, "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it."

Is this part of a suicide theology? If God "divided the people into nations" and it follows that God has a calling for nations, why is it being suggested that self-abnegation and sacrifices also mean self-evanishment?

Suicide theology is repugnant and unbiblical. We know that nations are not indestructible. God has also established "times and borders" for them. But this does not mean that a nation should scorn its own nature and seek its own death in obedience to an alleged Biblical

demand. This would be in conflict with God's providential ordination concerning the diversity of the nations and their settlement in different residential areas (KERKEN SAMELEWING, Para 107).

* Grim Future for Afrikaner Professionals Foreseen

91AF0257D Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
24 Oct 90 p 30

[Article by Professor Jaap Steyn of Free State University: "A Guillotine for Afrikaans Spells Poverty"; first two paragraphs are BEELD introduction]

[Text] The socioeconomic consequences of a revolutionary change like a revision of Afrikaans' status as an official language cannot be ignored. This could lead to unemployment and poverty, a catastrophe for certain publishers, a reduction in the numerical strength of the Afrikaans community, and even rebellious insurrection, since national suicide will not be accepted.

This is what Professor Jaap Steyn of the Free State University writes in this final article in his series on the status of Afrikaans under a new political order.

A change in the status of language sometimes has serious consequences. In some regions of India and Pakistan, it has led to rioting and loss of life. It can also have economic consequences. When the Cape Province got an English court during the 1830s, some jurists were reduced to beggary.

In Namibia, a new language policy bore consequences for the broadcasting industry within a few months. In our country, an officially English-monolingual South Africa could result in English-monolingual radio and television and regional councils for the performing arts. This will mean that a large bloc of the best people involved in cultural activities—announcers, actors, directors, translators, reporters—will lose their jobs due to a decline in employment opportunities.

Two other groups of employees who will suffer personally from the changed language status are translators and language specialists working for government agencies, as well as lecturers in Afrikaans. There are numerous white, brown, and black educators who have been trained to teach Afrikaans as a subject.

Anyone who ignores the socioeconomic consequences of such a revolutionary change as a revision of language status is committing one of the great sins known to the 20th century: considering ideas, and sometimes dangerous ideas, to be more important than people.

Culture as well will be affected, because a community of poor and unemployed people that must scrounge to find new work cannot spend much money on books, newspapers, magazines, stage performances, and the like, nor can they establish or maintain institutions to preserve the language, such as private schools.

Besides individuals, language-related enterprises such as publishers will suffer from official English monolingualism—the latter due to the loss of school books (because fewer pupils will study a non-recognized Afrikaans as a second or third language) and the loss of the market provided by library services.

For publishers that specialize in dictionaries and legal texts, for example, this could be catastrophic. Debilitated publishers will be more careful about the books they publish, so that before long only "safe" books will be appear: books that are required at school, and those for which there is a demonstrated need, such as religious literature and cookbooks.

The loss of language rights will also affect the numerical strength of the Afrikaans community.

One of the participants in the language rights debate, Professor Fanie Olivier, is of the opinion that the loss of status does not threaten the survival of Afrikaans: "Do you think that speakers of Zulu, for example, are running around with such silly fears?" (RAPPORT, 18 March 1990).

However, Prof. Olivier is comparing two completely different communities. The Zulus have a strongly monolingual core area with a high birth rate; Afrikaans speakers have a low birth rate, and a very large percentage is bilingual. A monolingual person cannot adopt another language, but for a bilingual person, this is very easy.

A rural community such as the Zulus is affected in a completely different way by the lack of official recognition than is a modernized, predominantly urban community, like the majority of Afrikaans speakers.

In a rural community, people are relatively isolated, and there is no incentive to learn the official language; they have to deal with it only when they come into contact with an official.

There, the official language is much less important than in a modern urban community, in which education is increasingly profession-oriented, the mass media exert a strong influence, and knowledge of an official language is a qualification for employment.

Moreover, Afrikaans speakers are more exposed than Zulu speakers to the mechanisms that promote language displacement (the process through which a community or an individual adopts a different language as his first language), such as mixed-language marriages with English speakers and living in English surroundings.

The loss of important functions of use generally results in language displacement. Only recently, there have been articles about significant new tendencies, in particular the increase in Afrikaans speakers who are sending their children to English schools. One of the reasons given by parents is to prepare for the "New South Africa."

When people feel that their language will have less value in the future and that there will be no career opportunities in it, they sometimes choose, "for the good of the children," instruction in the language with which they may be well-prepared for later life. Sometimes, this is followed by a further step: The family adopts the school language as its home language in order to better prepare the children for their schooling.

This almost looks like a return to the 19th century language situation, about which M.E.R. wrote in various publications with so much insight: "There was no future for a child if he could not speak or write English. Without English, it was impossible to advance in government service. Only our church was our own—and not even this was true everywhere and at all times."

During her childhood years, the girls of Swellendam readily spoke English at school, and also preferred it among themselves outside school. Her own sister gave her children English names, and the home language became English.

This process has consequences for literature as well, such as a shrinking number of readers and the possibility that writers will turn to larger language communities. Why will an ambitious writer with a good knowledge of another language write in a language that appears to have no future? Only because of language loyalty, but language loyalty is not enduring.

Afrikaans speakers cannot take pleasure in the loss of language rights. Here and in other countries, this is the surest symbol of defeat and humiliation. The individual is deprived of his human rights. Without language rights, there is no hope for a future as a nation.

Part of the language community will be demoralized and in time will become resigned, but part of it will remain rebellious and be forced into insurrection because they cannot accept national suicide.

As Professor Piet Cillie writes in his "Baanbrekers vir vryheid" [Trailblazers for Freedom]: "Nowhere in the laws of God or man is the suicide of a nation prescribed as an ethical imperative." The loss of language rights for Afrikaans will thus mean that the new political order will incorporate in itself the seeds of conflict and doom.

Angola

Politburo Secretariat Appointments Announced

MB2012125090 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Dec 90

[MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Political Bureau Communiqué issued on 20 Dec—read by announcer]

[Text] The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Central Committee Political Bureau held its first ordinary meeting on 19 December, under the chairmanship of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party, to examine and discuss different issues of national life.

Accordingly, the MPLA-Labor Political Bureau examined the report of the government delegation which visited the United States as well as [words indistinct] political issues discussed there and reiterated [words indistinct] on the inclusion in the document of issues that must be discussed, notably the fact that the election period must be decided within the framework of consultations with all the political forces that may emerge with the introduction of a multiparty system in the country.

This being the case, the government has been directed to communicate to the Portuguese side this viewpoint in order to have the ongoing negotiations move forward.

Following the Third Party Congress decision to (?transform) the Central Committee Secretariat into a Political Bureau Secretariat, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Political Bureau examined and approved the proposal of the new party executive composition. It is made up of the following comrades:

Executive Secretary, Julio Mateus Paulo Dino Matross;

Secretary for Organization and Cadres, Bornito de Sousa Baltazar Diogo;

Secretary for Information, Manuel Pedro Pacavira;

Secretary for Administration and Finance, Jacinto Venancio Chipoupa;

Secretary for Economic and Social Sphere, Joao Manuel Lourenco;

Secretary for Political Affairs, Marcolino Jose Carlos Mouco.

The Central Committee departments that existed in the past have now been abolished and new departments and offices which will include all officials [words indistinct] created.

FAPLA To Continue Actions Against UNITA

MB2012081890 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale said in the provincial capital of Uige yesterday that as long as the war situation imposed by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] continues, FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces will continue to carry out their defensive operations. Pedale told the local press at the end of a two-day visit to Uige that only with the signing of a cease-fire would new measures be taken to restore peace in the country.

The Angolan Armed Forces' senior officer also said that his visit to Uige, the headquarters of the northern front, sought to coordinate certain FAPLA defensive and combat operations, in accordance with guidelines from the FAPLA commander in chief to respond to each and every enemy action.

UNITA Reports Arrival of UN Delegation

MB2012081490 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] Jamba, Wed. December 19 [dateline as received]—A high-powered United Nations relief delegation led by the head of the U.N. Special Relief Programme for Angola [UNSRPA], Mr. Otto Essien, arrived in Jamba this morning for talks with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] officials.

Speaking on arrival at the Jamba airport from Luanda where they are currently stationed, Mr. Essien said that the visit was aimed at discussing certain aspects of the United Nations relief programme for Angola which is aimed at supplying emergency aid to famine stricken areas of the country under both UNITA and MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] control.

He said that the UNSRPA was happy with the response from the international community to the United Nations' appeal for emergency food aid to famine victims in Angola although the amount was still far from the required amount in order to effectively deal with the crisis. Mr. Essien said those worst affected by the famine are children and appealed for more international support.

The United Nations team to the talks includes Mr. Ibrahim Fall, UNICEF [United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund] representative in Angola, Mr. Ramiro da Silva, the UNSRPA's logistics chief, Mr. Asbjorn Devold, the UNSRPA's representative in the central Bie Province, Miss Patricia Banks, the UNSRPA's information officer and Mr. Fred Spielberg, a consultant with the U.N..

KUP Says MPLA Thwarting Aid Operations

*MB1912194290 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 1916 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Commentary: Is the MPLA Interested in the Life or Death of Famine-Stricken Angolans?]

[Text] Jamba, Wed. December 19.....[dateline as received]—At the time when humanitarian relief organisations have shown sympathy and are engaged in supplying food and other aid to save the lives of millions of drought and civil war victims, the minority Marxist regime persists on war aimed at continued misery and deaths.

According to the United States Agency for International Development (AID), the situation in Angola is regarded as the worst humanitarian crisis in Africa with an estimated 1.5 million Angolans affected by starvation.

The UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] President Dr. Jonas Savimbi, on June 25, this year sent letters to the United States President George Bush, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos proposing to establish peace corridors to allow food and medicines to reach famine victims.

Both the United States and the Soviet Governments warmly accepted Dr. Savimbi's proposal but the MPLA president responded negatively and falsely accused the United States State Department of trying to use UNITA's initiative to supply war materials, accusations which were dismissed by the State Department's African Bureau senior official Jeff Davidow.

According to Mr. Jeff Davidow, the minority Luanda regime had been urged for many months to allow safe passage to areas they do not control, but they rejected this.

Military sources in Huila Province recently disclosed the United Nations Relief Organisation Emergency Food Aid operation to famine stricken areas of Caconda and Caluquembe are being hampered by the MPLA's 42nd Tactical Group and the 100th Army Brigade, endangering the whole humanitarian process.

Reports from the same province say relief food aid is being exchanged for cattle from the local population by the MPLA officials for their personal benefit.

Sources add that the Chipungo-based local MPLA political commissar known as Kaviau is exchanging two bags of donated maize for a bull from villagers. It is said that the racket is carried out with the connivance of the official in charge of the disabled in the area.

Some of the donated goods including children's toys are sold at black markets.

In view of the number of contradicting positions taken by the Luanda regime toward the welfare of the Angolan

people one finds it hard to see how the Luanda regime can convince Angolans that the MPLA is now a mass party, departing from its old cover of workers party under which nothing was done for the good of the majority of the people.

Hails Women's Role

*MB1912170690 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Southern and Central Africa 1615 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Commentary: "Our Women Are Uncomparable"]

[Text] Jamba, Tuesday December 18.....[dateline as received]—Everything has changed. The residues of colonialism and neo-colonialism have disappeared in the consideration and treatment of the Angolan woman. This is the message one gets after watching the recently released film depicting UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] activities inside the country.

It is with bravery, dedication and sense of duty that today, the Angolan woman and UNITA militant is participating in the resistance struggle on an equal footing with her male counterpart, carrying out revolutionary tasks which previously, could not have been imagined as being possible for an African woman. But the Angolan woman, the UNITA militant, present at all battle fronts and villages is actively producing food to feed the guerrilla forces, transporting munitions and artillery shells with unexpected speed and a sense of duty which makes her a respected militant. The rivers, valleys and mountains do not constitute an obstacle in order for her to heroically participate in the liberation of the country. Side-by-side with the UNITA soldier and officer, she behaves like a comrade-in-arms without any inferiority complex.

It is the new Angolan woman who is being born. It is the Angolan woman in UNITA who reaffirms herself in history and says no to the defects of colonialism and neo-colonialism and the continuous abuses which exploitation left upon the outdated society of the Luanda regime.

The phase of the Angolan woman being treated as a girl by the colonialists in the street is over. The phase of assaults against women in the streets by the so-called blue-eyed boys protected by colonialism and its repressive machine is over.

The phase in which the original Angolan woman served as the object of enjoyment for Cubans and other foreign forces protecting the regime imposed in Luanda, is over.

It is an emancipated and free woman ready to actively participate and responsibly participate in the Angolan society. That is being born in the ranks of UNITA.

Yes, the Angolan woman is present at all fronts in the Cabinda, Zaire, Uige, Cwanza Norte, Cwanza Sul, Luanda, Benguela, Huambo, Bie, Malange, Lunda, Moxico, Cuando Cubango, Huila and Cunene Provinces.

The Angolan woman present in the history of the Angolan resistance deserves singularly homage from all those who believe that Africa must be honoured and dignified.

UNITA's theses have won. The political program outlined by our beloved president, Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, has won.

UNITA and the Angolan people have won because since the Angolan woman has been emancipated in this phase of the resistance, we are sure that the future society will not be the same but will be a dynamic, more just, more accomodating, more honoured and more dignified one.

The black Angolan woman will not be a fooling object because, thanks to her place which was won during the resistance struggle, she will be able to defend herself in the real sense of the word.

The government that she will elect will only be the one which will be led by UNITA because it identifies itself with her most profound aspirations.

The Angolan woman, who feels herself to be free through UNITA's struggle, will not be easily lured by material goods aimed at bribing her. She will rather prefer her dignity instead of wealth in slavery. She will work towards the election of a government which will really defend the Angolan people, a government led by our beloved President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi.

Black African mother, black Angolan woman, congratulations for such historic and exemplary work which you are carrying out in favour of the freedom of the country.

The phase of humiliation is over. You have won a distinguished in the Angolan society. [sentence as received] Conserve this place. You can no longer be represented by those leaders in Luanda who betrayed the ideals of the Angolan people by siding with the invading enemy who ill-treats you.

The weapons which the Angolan woman transports on her shoulders, the shells and munitions which she carried on long journeys, the maize flour, and cassava which she prepared for the guerrilla, her participation in the combat preparations and their final results was not all done in vain. The Angolan woman produced beneficiary effects for the entire fighting nation. Congratulations!

Mozambique

Maputo, Renamo, Others Form Verification Body

46 Members From 10 Countries

MB2012055490 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Text] The joint commission for the verification of the agreement to confine Zimbabwean troops along the Beira and Limpopo corridors was formed in Rome, the Italian capital, yesterday. The commission is made up of

46 members representing 10 countries, in addition to the Mozambican Government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance]. This was revealed by Tomas Vieira Mario, AIM's correspondent in Rome.

The commission is made up of Italy, which will coordinate it through its ambassador in Maputo, as well as Zimbabwe, Congo, France, Great Britain, Kenya, Portugal, the USSR, the United States, and Zambia.

From the Mozambican Government side, the following people are included in the commission: General Salvador Mutumbuke, Colonel Graca Chongo, and Major Andre Justino Repo.

Five officials appointed by the mediators and led by Italian Ambassador to Mozambique Manfredo di Camerana will (?preside) over the commission, which will have its headquarters in Maputo.

According to AIM's correspondent, immediately after the formation of the commission Professor Andre Riccardi of the Saint Egidio organization announced the holding of two separate meetings: one of the just-formed commission, and the other between representatives of the Mozambican Government, Renamo, and the mediators.

The commission's meeting had the objective of approving the document to be submitted to the negotiating table on the principles that will guide its proceedings.

The meeting between representatives of the Mozambican Government, Renamo, and the mediators is aimed at discussing the points on the agenda approved on 9 November.

Further on Commission

MB2012122290 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Dec 90

[Report from AIM correspondent Tomas Vieira Mario in Rome]

[Text] The joint commission for the verification of the agreement to confine Zimbabwean troops along the Beira and Limpopo corridors was sworn in in Rome, the Italian capital, last evening.

The commission is comprised of 46 members representing 10 countries, in addition to the Mozambican Government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance].

The Mozambican Government and Renamo each have three representatives on the commission. These include both soldiers and civilians.

The commission is made up of Italy, which will coordinate it through its ambassador to Maputo, Manfredo di Camerana; and of Zimbabwe, Congo, France, Great Britain, Kenya, Portugal, the USSR, the United States, and Zambia.

The Mozambican Government has the following representatives on the commission: General Salvador Mutumuke, Colonel Graca Chongo, and Major Andre Justino M'repo.

Renamo is represented by Pascoal Jose, Jeronimo Malagueta, and Inacio Morgado, who in the movement bear the ranks of general, brigadier, and major, respectively.

Kenya is represented by Bethwel Kiplagat and Brigadier Pande, two of the Kenyan Government's publicly known key figures in their support for Renamo.

The United States' representation in the commission is the largest of all. It has four members and is led by Richard Roth, State Department deputy director for southern Africa. It also includes (Debra Grace), U.S. ambassador to the Holy See in Rome.

All remaining countries are represented by three members.

Zimbabwe is represented by Major Brigadier Chikombwe, while Portugal is represented by Alvaro Mendonca Moura, director of the Africa desk in the Portuguese Foreign Ministry. The Portuguese delegation also includes Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Braz da Costa, military attache at the Portuguese Embassy in Maputo.

The USSR has the smallest representation in the commission. It is comprised of one single member who is only identified as Mr. (Razik), first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Rome.

Five officials appointed by the mediators in the negotiations will preside over the commission, which is headed by Italian Ambassador to Mozambique Manfredo di Camerana. The commission will have its headquarters in Maputo. The five [figure as heard] officials include Chimoio Bishop Don Francisco Filota, Fabio Riccardi of the Saint Egidio organization, and two Italian colonels.

It has not been possible, however, to confirm rumors that Renamo elements in the commission will leave Rome for Maputo before Christmas.

After the swearing-in ceremony which practically took place without speeches, Professor Andre Riccardi of the Saint Egidio organization announced the holding immediately thereafter of two separate meetings: a meeting of the commission to approve a document to be submitted to the negotiating parties on the principles that will guide its proceedings, and a meeting between the Mozambican Government, Renamo, and mediators to continue discussing the points on the agenda approved on 9 November.

After the signing of an agreement on 1 December to confine Zimbabwean troops in Mozambique during the period prior to a cease-fire, negotiations will now continue with the debate of political issues.

As is always the case, it is not easy to guess how long this fourth round will last. It seems clear, however, that no one intends to spend Christmas and New Year celebrations in talks in Rome. This being the case, it is believed that the delegations will disperse by Saturday [22 December] to meet again, probably in January. They will then deal with the point connected with a cease-fire. This may include the formation of a single national army until a cease-fire is reached.

Government-Renamo Peace Talks Resume in Rome

*MB2012065090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0635 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 20 SAPA—Peace talks aimed at ending the 15-year-old civil war between the Mozambican Government and the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebel movement have resumed in Rome, Italy, reports SABC's [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Africa desk.

Earlier a joint verification commission, comprising of military officers and diplomats from the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, Portugal, France, Congo, Zambia, Kenya and Zimbabwe, was sworn in to monitor Zimbabwean troops in Mozambique.

Commission members will be deployed in the southern Gaza and central Manica Provinces.

Kuwaiti Team Departs for Zambia 19 December

*MB1912190890 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] The Kuwaiti team led by Dr. ('Abd al-Sumahir), secretary general of the Muslim Agency for Africa, that had arrived in Maputo on 17 December has left for Zambia within the framework of its tour of six African countries.

Speaking to Radio Mozambique shortly before leaving, (al-Sumahir) said he had come to our country to express his thanks for the support and understanding shown by President Joaquim Alberto Chissano and his government regarding Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti team official described the meetings he had had with the Mozambican authorities in general, and the Mozambican head of state in particular, as fruitful. He said that the views of his government coincide with those of the Mozambican Government.

During his meeting with President Joaquim Chissano, Dr. ('Abd al-Sumahir) delivered a message from the Kuwaiti Government to the Mozambican head of state. The message focused on the prevailing situation in the Persian Gulf.

Mining Provides Less Than Two Percent of GNP

*MB2012094390 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 20 Dec 90*

[Text] The mining industry contributes less than 2 percent of Mozambique's gross national product although the country possesses immense mineral resources. This was revealed by National Mining Director Casimiro Francisco when he presented a paper on the situation and prospects of mining industry at a mining seminar underway in Maputo since last Tuesday [18 December].

Casimiro Francisco said that the mining industry has no impact on the national economy despite Mozambique's great mining potential. Our country possesses deposits of coal, marble, semiprecious stones, gold, natural gas, and other minerals. However, only a few of these are being exploited and in a small quantity.

South Africa Provides Educational Center Funds

*MB1912201290 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] The South African Government has made available 3.5 million rand to finance the rehabilitation of the Professional Training Center in Machava, which is (?controlled) by the State Secretariat for Professional Education.

(?One-third) of that amount will be used to buy school equipment and books.

Meanwhile, 18 Mozambicans will be sent to South Africa to attend a training course in the field of module methodology. This educational system is being introduced to certain professional training centers.

Namibia

Nujoma Appeals for Aid for Social Programs

*MB1912123490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1203 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Report by Carmen Honey]

[Text] Windhoek Dec 19 SAPA—Namibian President Sam Nujoma on Wednesday [19 December] appealed to the international community to assist the country to achieve its aims in health care, education, employment and food production.

He was speaking in a televised address in Windhoek to coincide with the release of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) report on the state of the world's children.

Mr Nujoma said Namibia inherited at independence from South Africa in March this year, "the legacy of a privileged racially biased elite, social and political contradictions and institutional neglect".

The most glaring disparity, he said, was in health services where Namibia had an infant mortality rate of between 79 to 85 deaths per 1000 and an under [age] five mortality rate of 90 to 110 per 1,000. "We are also facing a situation where some 106,000 children under five years of age, that is over 30 per cent of the total number of five year olds, were affected by malnutrition," he said.

"In education, of the 265,000 eleven year olds eligible for school every year, 28 per cent or 93,700 [figures as received], were deprived of any access to schooling whatsoever, and of those who enrol, only 37 per cent complete primary school."

Mr Nujoma said institutionalised racism and deprivation had led to conditions which forced many children onto the streets where they earned an income through begging. "Today they are the most neglected members of our society with no bright future in sight unless we all pool our resources together to get them off the streets," he said.

The Namibian Government had embarked on programmes to enhance national food security, a primary health care programme in conjunction with Unicef, which includes a national immunisation campaign, and has a policy to provide equal access to education for all children from the beginning of 1991.

"However our prime goal for the immediate future must be to get the children off the streets," Mr Nujoma said, adding that three government departments were coordinating their efforts to achieve this aim.

"With the necessary and effective long term support from concerned sources, both internal and external, my government is willing to do its part... to achieve these goals, not only in the interest of our children, but in the interest of all Namibians," Mr Nujoma said.

"In far-away New York we made a promise to all the world's children. "Namibia is prepared to honour this promise," Mr Nujoma concluded.

Zambia

'Arafat Meets With President Kaunda in Lusaka

*LD1912194690 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Excerpt] Brother President leader Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], head of the State of Palestine, is continuing his African tour. He has arrived in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, where he was met by Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, members of the government, Arab ambassadors, and the Arab and Palestinian communities.

Brother President leader Abu-'Ammar held a round of talks with the Zambian president which dealt with the latest political developments in the region, the latest developments in occupied Palestine in light of the escalation of our people's heroic intifadah, and the latest

diplomatic efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis peacefully and in a way that links it with all the crises in the region, the core of which being the Palestine issue.

The Zambian president strongly condemned the oppressive Zionist practices against the sons of the Palestinian people, and stressed that the international community must apply pressure on the Zionist entity and exercise international legitimacy in occupied Palestine, reaffirming his country's support and backing to the struggle of our Palestinian people.

Brother President leader Abu-'Ammar visited the Angolan capital, where he was met by members of the ruling party's political bureau, ministers, and some Angolan officials. The brother president held a round of talks with the Angolan president at the presidential palace, attended by the Palestinian delegation, which dealt with the latest Arab and international political developments. [passage omitted]

Opposition Wins 'Significant' Court Victory

MB1912171490 London BBC World Service
in English 1615 GMT 19 Dec 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Zambian opposition Movement for Multiparty Democracy, MMD, has won what could be a significant victory in the courts. The MMD has been under a lot of pressure from the government and ruling party, UNIP [United National Independence Party], as preparations get under way for multiparty elections next year which President Kaunda agreed to with great reluctance in September.

The MMD has complained of harassment and of not being allowed access to the media. Well, now a court has been hearing a complaint by the MMD that the government was acting unconstitutionally by preventing it from holding meetings.

From Lusaka, John Lukelle reports:

[Begin Lukelle recording] In his judgement delivered today in the Lusaka High Court, Judge Buddy Walia upheld with full costs the case in which the Movement for Multiparty Democracy, MMD, had petitioned the government for having violated and infringed the fundamental constitutional rights of its members. The petition was tabled by the MMD in reaction to the government's refusal to grant the movement permits to hold public meetings.

Part of Judge Walia's task was to find out if the petitioners had violated the Public Order Act of Zambia's Constitution and, secondly, to determine the extent toward which Article 4 of the Constitution has limited the rights of the MMD to hold meetings.

Despite the fact that Article 4 has since been repealed by Parliament, the judge's decision to uphold the MMD's petition against the government will have a bearing on the

future conduct of Zambia's law enforcement agencies in that, according to the judge, they need to exercise their discretion in matters of public interest in relation to the laws of the country. In practical terms, the outcome of this petition significantly goes a long way in ascertaining the extent toward which the police, for instance, have chosen to arbitrarily act unconstitutionally in interpreting the law in relation to Article 4 of the Constitution.

The government, meanwhile, intends to appeal to the Supreme Court against the judge's decision to uphold the petition. [end recording]

Opposition Leader on Multiparty Legalization

MB1912154290 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Interview with Arthur Wina, president of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy by reporter Cathy Fitch; date; place not given; recorded; from the "Africa South" program]

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia yesterday approved constitutional amendments that will effectively end 17 years of one-party rule. This follows a unanimous vote for a return to a multiparty democracy taken in Parliament in November.

Leading opponents of the government will now register as political parties and the Movement for Multiparty Democracy [MMD] hopes to file its registration tomorrow. MMD party chairman, Mr. Arthur Wina on the line from Lusaka to Cathy Fitch:

[Begin recording] [Wina] Our reaction is that we welcome President Kaunda's decision to sign the [words indistinct] (?backed) by Parliament into law, and to do it before the 25 days of the [word indistinct] expired. We are happy also that we are entering in Zambia into a new era of multiparty democracy, which will enable the full exercise of the rights of our people to form parties and to demand the right to be masters of their house, once more, through representatives elected by them and who are accountable to them. Unfortunately, as you know, there are certain aspects of the amendment of the Constitution which still leaves UNIP [United National Independence Party] with a tremendous amount of leeway, funding, and free access to media. But we are confident that the organization of the party which are registering tomorrow will be able to reach every Zambian, and turnout a massive landslide victory at the elections.

[Fitch] Mr. Wina, the MMD is a recent party founded only this year. What sort of membership do you think you have?

[Wina] At the moment our information flowing from the provinces and the districts and the cities indicates a membership of between 75 and 80 percent of the adult population of Zambia. Obviously, the movement is only six months old but, it's a very impressive record that we

have been able to open branches in every district in the country. We also have a yardstick which indicates that where we had rallies during the referendum campaign, we had (?touched) record crowds in comparison to the meetings which were attempted by the ruling party. So, we are really on the crest of a very popular wave. And, we hope that this will be converted into voting support and also membership of the new party.

[Fitch] The date for elections, Mr. Wina? Do you like to speculate on that?

[Wina] The announced date originally was 17 October 1991, but all indications point to an early election. I don't think that we will wait that long. I think they will pull a hard one, but we are geared for that at any time. Our organization has already been on the ground throughout the country.

[Fitch] What sort of campaign for the electioneering are you likely to embark upon?

[Wina] Well, we would like to establish and mount a peaceful campaign. A campaign which is not marred by incidents of violence or incidents of clashes with UNIP, because we are on the winning (?tide). And we do not want to give any excuse whatsoever to President Kaunda and his party to create [word indistinct] conditions that might prejudice the conduct of the elections. And, we are appealing to them constantly that the honors of keeping a peaceful campaign is really on their shoulders, because, we are already a peaceful democratic movement. [end recording]

Zimbabwe

Minister Discusses Mozambican Border Situation

MB1412091690 Harare THE HERALD in English
7 Dec 90 p 5

[Unattributed report: "No Electric Fence Along Zimbabwe-Mozambique Border Says Mahachi"]

[Text] Rusape—Zimbabwe's border with Mozambique is too long to guard fully and prevent MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] bandits crossing but Zimbabwe has no intention of following South Africa's example and erecting an electric fence.

"There are not enough forces to be deployed along the eastern border with Mozambique and Zimbabwe does not have the guts and the morale South Africa has to erect an electric fence to stop the infiltration of MNR bandits who are brutally killing our people," the Minister of Home Affairs, Cde [Comrade] Moven Mahachi, said on Wednesday [5 December].

Cde Mahachi said it was impossible to deploy forces on each kilometre of the border area to prevent the MNR terrorising Zimbabwean villagers. He appealed to the MNR to stop brutalising innocent Zimbabweans.

"I appeal to Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] to totally halt hostility against Zimbabweans, especially along the eastern borders, where there are constant reports of MNR massacring innocent Zimbabweans," he added.

Meanwhile, the Commander of the Mozambican Army, Lieutenant-General Tobias Dai, has called on troops in the Central Province of Manica to continue fighting against MNR. Radio Mozambique reported on Wednesday, until such time as a ceasefire is agreed upon.

Drought Relief Slowed by Transportation Shortage

MB2012110490 Harare THE HERALD in English
5 Dec 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Drought Relief Deliveries Hit by Transport Shortages"]

[Text] The nationwide \$12.5 million drought relief exercise launched by the Government last month has been hard hit by transport shortages, with less than half the more than 18,00 tonnes of maize expected to be delivered in the first week reaching their destinations by last Friday [30 November].

The Secretary for Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Cde [Comrade] July Moyo, said yesterday that although Government wished to distribute more than 36,000 tonnes of maize to about 1.8 million affected people, only about 7,207 tonnes had been delivered last week. The 7,207 tonnes would benefit only about 720,780 people. The more than 36,000 tonnes were expected to cater for all the 1.8 million people in need of immediate drought relief for this month and January, and it had been planned that relief food would be delivered by the end of this week.

Cde Moyo said while 368 trucks were needed to complete the exercise in two weeks, only 140 had been secured.

"We wanted to move as much as possible of the two months's supply within two weeks, so that we don't disrupt other development projects by keeping the trucks we got from other departments for too long, but obviously this has not been possible."

Cde Moyo appealed to individuals and companies in affected areas to offer their vehicles for transporting the maize.

Giving a provincial breakdown of progress made by Friday, Cde Moyo said Matabeleland South needed 38 trucks but had received 15 and had transported about 1,348.2 tonnes of the 1,768 tonnes earmarked for the first week.

Matabeleland North needed 42 trucks but received nine and 504.81 tonnes of the 619.85 set for the first week had been moved by Friday. The situation was made better by the movement of maize to Binga and Hwange by train.

Seventy trucks were needed in the Midlands but 33 were available and in this province, only 1,377 tonnes of the 4,045 tonnes earmarked to be moved by Friday had been delivered. Deliveries in the province were delayed by three days.

Masvingo needed 80 trucks but received 32 and moved 1,846 tonnes of the set 3,978 tonnes for the first week.

The breakdown for the rest of the provinces is as follows: in the order of trucks required, trucks available, tonnage distributed and the total tonnage targeted for delivery in the first week:

—Manicaland—75 trucks needed, 22 available, 1,377 tonnes moved out of 5,246 tonnes set for the first week;

—Mashonaland Central—24 [words indistinct] available, 380.36 tonnes moved out of [figure indistinct] tonnes;

—Mashonaland West—30 trucks needed, seven available, 298.27 tonnes moved out of 984.8 tonnes and;

—Mashonaland East—nine vehicles needed, seven available, 75.54 tonnes moved out of 174 tonnes.

Burkina Faso

Compaore Closes Conference on Draft Constitution

AB1712162090 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 17 Dec 90

[Text] Like he did at the opening of the national conference on the draft constitution, head of state Captain Blaise Compaore made it a point to attend personally the closing session of this conference. Lam Taro has the details on his closing address.

[Taro] Captain Blaise Compaore made it a point to congratulate the presidium for the great job done within the two days. Discussions on the draft document enabled the participants to sound out the possibilities for Burkinabe citizens to build a state in which the institutions express the people's conscience. The chairman of the Popular Front said that democracy, as a tool of the people to develop themselves and to express themselves freely, appears to be an irreversible step at the present stage of development of all societies. Burkina Faso is a pluralist society because all opinions are represented.

Thus, this gain must be used by the political organizations and the other components of the society to work solely toward further strengthening the popular and democratic revolution. In this direction, the head of state announced the forthcoming meeting of the various political parties to harmonize their viewpoints and thus work for the development of the people.

In the following excerpt, Captain Blaise Compaore talks about the advantages of political pluralism and the responsibilities of the various political parties in the smooth development of the revolution:

[Begin Compaore recording] Pluralism provides varieties of opinion and guards against monotony, artificial unity, promiscuities of dictatorship, and personal power. Comrade delegates to the conference, in this democratic endeavor, political parties and organizations which participate in [word indistinct] which are involved in national political life have a special responsibility. They must demonstrate maturity and lucidity in order not to fall into the same previous mistakes of unhealthy power sharing spurred by slanderous and irresponsible propaganda. Beyond the parties game, at various levels of our institutions and under appropriate forms, we must associate the representatives that must have been freely chosen by the organs of the civil and traditional society. Building a law-abiding state, a process which has been in effect for several months, has already entered its decisive stage.

The present draft constitution crowns the task of developing norms for managing the state and the entire society. All that is left to do is to hold a referendum. This finalizes a constituent process whose evident democratic character is in line with the aspirations of our people and of the majority of the sectors of national political life. [end recording]

Cape Verde

* Ongoing MPD-PAICV Talks Examined

91AF0248A Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese
10 Nov 90 pp 40-42,44

[Article by Antonio Loja Neves: "The Second Republic"]

[Text] Political changes are occurring in African countries at the mercy of the new winds sweeping the world and of the greater or lesser zeal of local political forces. Openness is a magic word, brandished by governments and opposition groups in a new relationship among social forces that calls for practices of intervention seldom used before now. And Cape Verde, more than any other officially Portuguese-speaking country, has changed into an enticing melting-pot of experiences.

The first phase of the Second Republic—as some are already calling it—had its epilogue last weekend with the first national convention of the Movement for Democracy (MPD), the main opposition force. One hundred sixty delegates met legally in the facilities of the National People's Assembly, and a representative of the government party was there, among others.

A few weeks earlier saw the conclusion of the first round of talks between the MPD and the ruling PAICV [African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde] (and also between the latter and the tiny UPICVR) [expansion not given], in which consensus was reached on certain points of conflict. Not everything was patched up, but decisive steps were taken towards installing a multiparty system.

With the unanimous approval of bylaws and a platform, as well as a strategy for the legislative and presidential elections—which the leaders would prefer not to disclose just yet—the MPD confirmed at its head the attorney Carlos Wahnnon de Carvalho Veiga, now the president-elect. Veiga studied in Lisbon during the 1960's and 1970's, during which time he was a supporter but not an official member of the PAIGC [African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde]. After his military service in Angola, he returned to Cape Verde in 1974, and joined the PAIGC as a grass-roots activist. He immediately became the first managing director of the Internal Administration in 1975, and later the nation's attorney-general. But in the early 1980's the break occurred: Carlos Veiga left his official posts and devoted himself to IPAJ [expansion not given], the association for attorneys. In 1985 he was invited to be a candidate on the PAICV's single lists for the Assembly, as an independent deputy, which he accepted.

Winning in All Circles

Since that time, he has been participating actively in legislative sessions, specifically with the associations' bill in 1977, which was just approved with amendments prohibiting associations from being political in nature.

With its network organized and with its regional extensions, the municipal and local assemblies, the MPD has become the second largest party with units throughout Cape Verdean territory. The convention held last weekend elected the national organs: an executive body, the National Directorate, composed of 15 members, that stems from a National Committee with 45 voting members; a Council of Jurisdiction; and, a President. With regard to the bylaws that have now been approved, the tendency is towards the right and giving a greater voice and power to the collegiate deliberating organs.

But the "democrats" left that important meeting determined above all else to win the elections in all circles. A bold wager, especially when there have still been no public opinion surveys to evaluate the current proclivities in the Cape Verdean social fabric. A decision defining the election campaign strategy—the "secret of the gods" for a few more days still—could contain the key to their success.

"Dynamic and communicative" are views expressed on Gualberto do Rosario, based on his work. He is one of the participants in the first round of talks with the government party. The convention had delegates "from all social classes, with highly trained technicians and intellectuals holding a position of prominence; but, there were also farmers and peasants, manual laborers and businessmen. Many white-haired people, but a significant number of young people."

There has been a certain thawing recently in the multi-party climate in Cape Verde, and the head table received many greetings, including a special one sent by a core group from the Combatants for the Freedom of the Fatherland (former soldiers) from the city of Praia, composed of prestigious persons including Osvaldo de Azebedo, a major in the reserves coming from the jungles of Guinea and a respected intellectual.

Unknowns in the (Very) Near Future

A thawing, but not a total one.... The question that remains is how to balance the steps to be taken towards achieving true openness in Cape Verde with the reluctance of orthodox circles and the lack of cooperation of people lacking a civic spirit. In analyzing the current situation, Gualberto do Rosario pointed out the following: "We understand that there has been a determination to change, but nothing is guaranteed. The convention was clear in detecting only two alternatives: Either the PAICV stays in power and the status quo is maintained as well, and then the policy of openness is left at what has already been achieved. Or, the MPD wins the elections and takes the changes to their ultimate consequences."

Thus the elections will dictate where the turning—or breaking—point will be. First the legislative elections, certainly without coalitions, if the words of various leaders are to be believed. Then the presidential elections which, if more names are not put forward, will consist of

a contest between Aristides Pereira and Antonio Mascarenhas Monteiro (who was president of the Supreme Court of Justice up to October), who will have the support of the MPD, according to what was decided last Sunday.

But it is in the legislative elections that the future of the country will be decided. The two largest groups are claiming that they will win a majority of the votes, and observers do not dare to make a prediction. Cape Verdeans are looking shrewdly at what is happening and reflecting seriously. In the current political frenzy, in which thousands are attending meetings convened by the parties, they are participating in the "hue and cry"—the name given to the elections and demonstrations, the parades of cars and the enlightenment meetings—and are enjoying the party. As far as serious matters are concerned, they will give their opinion on those later.

Everything is not a bed of roses, however. To respond to accusations that it is interfering, the government has convened the MPD for a second round of talks next Tuesday, to review the extent to which previous decisions have been implemented and to try to make progress on the points still in dispute, namely, the timing for revising the constitution, Article 50 of the Press Law, which prohibits presentation of evidence in the case of charges against the supreme magistrate of the nation, and the relationship between the PAICV and government structures.

Another aspect that will certainly be discussed is the order and safety which should prevail during the electoral contest. The government has already made a proposal to the opposition to the effect that both sides should be involved in measures to maintain order and follow up on initial incidents that occurred with protesters who tried to obstruct a PAICV rally conducted by Prime Minister Pedro Pires in Santa Catarina. Now, these disturbances were repeated last Saturday, when rioters threw stones in an attempt to stop a rally in the City of Mindelo, once again conducted by Pedro Pires. Without directly accusing the MPD of being behind these incidents, the government seems to want to make it jointly responsible for repressive measures which are bound to be unpopular, and specifically the use of the controversial military police.

Origin of the Opposition

What makes Cape Verde an exemplary case? First the dynamic and bold way in which both the government and the opposition have blazed a trail that, according to the experience of others, is difficult to do.

Secondly, the discovery of new party groupings that naturally have their origin close to the movement that was at the heart of independence. It is enough to talk with an ordinary citizen or read newspapers that are not necessarily linked with the government, such as the monthly NOTICIAS, to realize this. "PAICV/MPD:

Only the Two of Us Know How Well We Get Along," or "Like Father (Nearly), Like Son" are titles from the press that say a great deal.

Among those making the initial efforts to get the MPD started are actually individuals known as former militants in the ruling party. They were not top leaders, nor does this previous militancy necessarily paint the new party in a doubtful light. This is particularly evident among technicians and members of the liberal professions, who formed the party's core group. Eurico Monteiro—the second in command in the MPD and a former militant in the PAIGC, which he left during the conflict known as the "trial of the Trotskyites"—certainly had this situation in mind when he told NOTICIAS after the talks: "Many times we were working side by side on projects; in some ways, our way of viewing things gives us a number of points in common." Why then did he become discontented with the structures and the political philosophy of the PAIGC/PAICV?

An analysis of the practices and structure of the government party makes this easier to understand. In a single party system, the lack of a variety of instruments to facilitate participation creates insoluble problems. Added to this factor was the inability of the PAIGC to purge itself of an egalitarian mentality that provided an ideal environment for the development of an armed conflict, but, once independence had been won, ran up against natural resistance. Not even in communist parties—and the liberation "front" was not actually one—was it common for the director-general or a specialized cadre to meet systematically with a minor employee of a ministry, because there was no structure to provide for organization by different sectors (intellectuals and artists, technical cadres, metal-working specialists, office workers, etc.). This situation gradually resulted in a failure to meet the aspirations of all parties, and precluded any possibility of setting up the mechanisms for a rich discussion of the important issues of building a new society.

At the same time, although the PAIGC dominated the government apparatus, it did not assume the full power of a ruling party: members who, for one reason or another, were leaving it were still able to remain in the government structure, and others who, in the meantime, were joining it were never forced into becoming party activists. Thus, differences of opinion, breaks, and personal conflicts created a significant number of cadres who were leaving the government party, but were not necessarily leaving public life or the administration of the country.

In the Beginning There Was Only One Word

The shortcomings of the PAICV party apparatus became increasingly apparent, exhausted by governmental and autarchic duties and composed of middle-level cadres who were not well prepared for debate. Deciding against a prolonged period of reflection, the great debates of

1986 and 1988—on the educational system, administrative reform, and the Second National Development Plan, among other topics—were held with the party in a marginal position, and members of the MPD also participated in them. It is therefore not uncommon to hear in critical speeches by the opposition—for instance, regarding economic affairs—opinions very close to the government's own views regarding the shortcomings of its programs.

The overwhelming majority of these cadres, and of those still in the PAICV, streamed into Cape Verde at the time of independence in search of a utopia, in a burst of passion during what were emotional times. Many left careers in other countries or interrupted studies to respond to the appeal of the fatherland in reconstruction. In the beginning, there was the enchantment of a freed country. After a tragic colonial era in which even the cyclical famine molded the conscience of a martyred people, Cape Verde was ridding itself of Spínola's last hold to create a confederation and move forward into the "modern world" as a sovereign and independent country. The year was 1975, and the PAIGC activists came back in tides: from the front in Guinea-Bissau, where they had developed one of the most important guerrilla movements in the 1960's and 70's, and from hiding in Lisbon, Dakar, the Ivory Coast, the United States, Holland, etc.

It was not hard for Amílcar Cabral's party to take over the leadership of this process and to establish itself in the first phase of government in which the concept of a single party was dominant. At that point in time, the opposition was insignificant: it consisted of a doddering UPICV with its headquarters in Senegal, a minuscule Maoist party established in the transitional years of the 50's and 60's by José Leitão da Graça, whose weak point was the issue of the unification of Guinea and Cape Verde and which denounced the PAIGC as a "messenger of Moscow," aligning itself on the side of Peking.

During the troubled times of the change in government, faint cries were still heard from a Cape Verdean Democratic Union (UDC), protesting the overly hurried way in which the transition was taking place, at the risk of not protecting their interests—Portuguese interests or interests linked to the colonial system of administration. In 1977, the Cape Verdean Independent and Democratic Union (UCID) was formed, a Christian democratic organization that gathered up the pieces of the UDC and was against the unification of Guinea and Cape Verde, against communism, against agrarian reform, and in favor of individual freedoms and pluralism. With a base in the United States, Germany, and Holland (here, especially based on the core group of dissidents from the PAIGC committee), and with much less support in the country itself, it received sporadic support from Strauss, and never received the blessings it sought from the Portuguese CDS [Social Democratic Center Party]. Today, it believes that the PAICV has finally opted for a system that meets its wishes. Having missed the first round of negotiations, because its leaders were abroad

and were unable to attend, it intends to compete independently in the upcoming elections, and its president, Lidio Silva, is scheduled to arrive in Cape Verde on 14 November. Only then will the request for an audience and the contacts with structures in the interior of the country occur. The UCID has about 1,800 Cape Verdeans registered as active members, most of whom have emigrated. The very new Social-Democratic Union (USD) of Engineer Jorge Querido—president of the National Technological Research Institute and a confidant of Amilcar Cabral—to the point that he was selected to head the PAIGC's clandestine structures in the interior of the country—cannot be evaluated since it is only two months old, but everything indicates that it will remain small.

The 'Traditionalists' and the Pragmatists

This opposition, which calls itself "traditionalist," does not have a large following in the local society, since the UCID was hurt by operating clandestinely and by self-imposed exile, and the UPICV-R is known as "the party of a single activist." If it has a role to play, it will be as the guarantor of a system in which all groups can have a voice, rejecting a bipolar system.

Yet, when it comes time to discuss serious matters, it will be difficult for Cape Verde to escape two major poles. And the only way to avoid an actual bipolar system is if the voting points to an absolute need for alliances to govern. In that case, a small organization could play a role.

The dynamic nature of the MPD was made apparent recently in a document of demands signed by about 500 administrative cadres in the city of Praia and in the way in which it managed to regiment the people in some demonstrations convened on the islands of Santiago, Santo Antao, and San Vicente. Its directing council has been composed of former members of the PAICV at various times, or of technicians who have never participated in its structures but have held important posts in the administration or in private firms. The poorest laborers, businessmen tired of bureaucratic obstacles to their investments, rural workers discontented with agrarian reform, young cadres having trouble getting ahead have all been swept along and begun joining in the demonstrations, and perhaps in the platform. As it has gradually increased its following, the movement, which was timid at first, has gained new strength, and as the opposition has become bolder, the openness policy has gained ground. At the same time, Pedro Pires' government is moving resolutely towards a multiparty system, and is proposing talks with the opposition. People are divided on the issue of whether it was forced to do this by the MPD's persistence, or because the internal struggle in the government and party organs was moving towards the side of the most pragmatic ones. But it is only fair to point out that the matter was discussed a long time ago by the PAICV, and the only reason it was not resolved at the Second Congress in 1988 is because the most radical line felt it was premature. International

events and the growing opposition have confirmed the fact that those advocating change were right: the PAICV lost a historic opportunity to exercise its very famous ability to anticipate events.

In the MPD, however, there is still distrust as to the government's intentions in the current process, to the point that they are not discounting the possibility of requesting international observers to monitor the elections. But, according to a spokesman, they admit that "if they give us guarantees, it would be better not to have to resort to that step."

The curious thing is that it might perhaps be the government itself that requests the presence of these observers. From its standpoint, the fanfare that the MPD has just created, suggesting that it will defeat the PAICV in all electoral circles, is loud enough that it should not allow the opposition, in the event it does not win, the possibility of immediately shouting: "Election fraud!"

The Gambia

Prince Johnson, Others Arrive for Liberia Talks

AB1912214090 Paris AFP in French 2054 GMT
19 Dec 90

[Text] Banjul, 19 Dec (AFP)—Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) leader Prince Johnson arrived late this afternoon in Banjul where he will participate in a meeting of the various factions in Liberia scheduled to take place in the Gambian capital tomorrow, it was learned from a reliable source. This is the first time that Prince Johnson will participate in a meeting on the future of Liberia.

General John Hezekiah Bowen, chief of general staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), also arrived this afternoon in Banjul to represent the AFL at this meeting, it was learned from the same source.

General Joshua Dogonyaro (Nigeria), military operations commander of the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group, the West African intervention force, has also arrived in Banjul. As for National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) leader Charles Taylor, he is expected this evening or tomorrow morning in the Gambian capital.

Professor Amos Sawyer, president of the Liberian interim government, is also expected in Banjul, as well as the ministers of the five members of the Permanent Mediation Committee (Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and representatives of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Ivory Coast, it was learned.

Ghana

Plans for Issuing National Identity Cards Noted

AB1712222890 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 15 Dec 90

[Text] National identity cards will be issued to Ghanaians before the next district level elections. A technical committee appointed by the National Commission for Democracy [NCD] has designed the card, which will be presented to the government soon for approval. This was announced by a member of the PNDC, Mr. Justice Annan, who is currently touring the Upper East Region.

Mr. Justice Annan, who is also chairman of the commission, was reacting to complaints about the multiplicity of identity cards being issued in the country, during a chat with workers at the Paga Border Post. He said the major problem with the issuing of identity cards is the definition of who is a Ghanaian. Another problem is the question of making the card foolproof. The PNDC member said the thumbprint rather than signature may be used.

He told the personnel of the Customs, Excise, and Preventive Service [CEPS], Immigration Department, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services, and Port Health Workers at the post to coordinate their activities and share their resources for effective performance. Mr. Justice Annan stressed that all the agencies at the border post had a crucial play in the country's security. He said while the CEPS has a duty to ensure that nothing is smuggled in or out of the country, the Plant Protection and Regulatory Services should guard against the importation of plant and animal diseases. The Port Health and Immigration Departments should also see to it that only qualified persons are allowed into the country.

The collector in charge of the border post, Mr. Charles Ntow, announced that the Customs Service exceeded its target by 50 percent during the 1989 fiscal year. He said much of the revenue was derived from the export of salt and wood products, as well as the importation of hides and charges on excess baggage. Mr. Ntow said there exists cordial relations between workers at the post and their counterparts in Burkina Faso, adding that there has been no border dispute in the area.

Delegation Leaves for Liberian Peace Talks

AB1912214590 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Ghana's delegation to the peace talks on Liberia left Accra this afternoon for Banjul, The Gambia. It is being led a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Captain Kojo Tsikata. The other members are the secretary for foreign affairs, Mr. Obed Asamoah, and the commander of the First Infantry Brigade, Brigadier F.S. Agyemprang.

The peace talks are due to resume tomorrow with the expected participation of the three Liberian warring

factions. A cease-fire was signed three weeks ago at the end of a meeting of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] heads of state in the Malian capital, Bamako.

Guinea-Bissau

Multiparty Presidential Elections Slated for 1993

AB1712211490 Paris AFP in French 2100 GMT
13 Dec 90

[Text] Bissau, 13 Dec (AFP)—Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira announced today in Bissau that presidential elections with several candidates running for president will take place in Guinea-Bissau in 1993, two years after the official installation of the multiparty system in the country. General Vieira, who was addressing members of the Central Committee of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC, the sole ruling party since the independence of the country in 1974), has in this way brought the date for installing the multiparty system in Guinea-Bissau forward from 1993 to 1991.

The president added that the second extraordinary congress of the PAIGC, slated for between 20 and 25 January in Bissau, will enable them to define modalities for installing a multiparty system and establishing the number of political parties to be authorized. President Vieira also appealed to all Guinea-Bissau opponents to return home to take part in the preparatory deliberations for installing the multiparty system in the country. He added that this contribution of the opposition to the elaboration of the documents on multiparty systems could help create a democratic climate.

The PAIGC Central Committee meeting, which has been going on in Bissau since 10 December, is devoted to examining documents which will be presented to the second extraordinary congress for approval, according to a reliable source. Among these documents are the platform for transition, the statutes and programs of the party, the press code, the electoral law, and the law on the right to strike.

The Guinea-Bissau head of state also believes that for the party to live longer, its present leaders must leave the leadership for the young cadres because, he said, "the greater part of the current leaders have been surpassed by world events."

Ivory Coast

Synares Interim Leader Clarifies Position

AB1712213290 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 Dec 90

[Text] This morning the provisional executive committee of the National Union for Research and Higher Education [Synares] held its general assembly at the Leon Robert Auditorium of the university. Professor

Constant Roux, president of the provisional executive committee of Synares, took the opportunity to make some clarifications. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Roux recording] A lot of twisting has been made to our union's statute, and it is very serious twisting which I will enumerate: first, the self-projection of Mr. Marcel Ette as president of the Board of Directors of the Palmeraie Housing Construction Company in order to guarantee himself golden retirement benefits; second, General Treasurer Ahibot Koffi's acting for Secretary General Marcel Ette is not according to the rules of our banking documents and is contrary to the provisions of Article 14 of the standing orders; fourth [as heard], concerning organizing the fourth regular congress, any conscientious member expected that Comrade Marcel Ette would very honestly organize it before retiring—his retirement was at the end of 1989. This gave him the right to an honorary membership of our union, in accordance to Article 11 of the statute.

This situation should have obliged the executive members of our board of directors to find some time before the end of 1989 to organize a congress to elect new officers to the various bodies if it was just a mere extension of time the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors had granted the National Executive Committee on 16 and 17 November, 1988. Unfortunately, we notice that neither the National Executive Committee nor the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors seem to be really bothered with organizing this congress.

Dear comrades, is this difficult to understand when at the same time we know that many national institutions were able to hold their congress during the same period, including political parties such as the Ivorian Popular Front and the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally? We are therefore convinced that it was neither an extension of time nor a legal mandate but a deliberate de facto confiscation of our union. Soon we will massively attend the extraordinary congress to be convened by the provisional executive committee, which is only aimed at establishing a strong, united, and really autonomous Synares to serve all. [end recording]

Liberia

Interim President To Attend Cease-Fire Talks

AB1912163290 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] In news details, Liberia's interim leader, Dr. Amos Sawyer, will travel to Banjul, The Gambia shortly to attend a cease-fire talks conference by the mediation committee of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS.

Liberia's three warring factions—the National Patriotic Front, the Independent National Patriotic Front, and the Armed Forces of Liberia—are expected to attend the Banjul meeting. The three groups recently signed a

cease-fire agreement in Bamako, Mali. The Banjul meeting is expected to work out the technical details of the cease-fire agreement.

Meanwhile, the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL], Lieutenant General Ezekiel Bower, left the capital Monrovia yesterday to attend the cease-fire talks. Speaking to ELBC News shortly before departure, General Bower expressed the hope that the meeting will be a success. Gen. Bower is being accompanied to Banjul by the AFL judge advocate general, Colonel Wilmot Dennis.

Mali

Charles Taylor Meets Traore, Comments on Accords

AB1912161490 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Just before chairing the cabinet meeting this morning, General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the party and president of the Republic, received Charles Taylor of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia at the Koulouba Palace.

Charles Taylor was in Bamako to brief the head of state on the development of the situation in Liberia since the historic Bamako agreement and his movement's willingness to do everything possible to honor all the pledges made at the subregion's heads of state meeting. On this occasion, Charles Taylor reiterated his sincere thanks to the Malian people for their availability and spirit of sacrifice for peace and security in the region.

At this audience, which is taking place prior to the Banjul meeting, Gen. Moussa Traore expressed satisfaction with all the various factions' desire for peace. It is the duty of all the warring factions to work on the ground toward the scrupulous respect of the Bamako agreements, which are aimed at restoring a climate of peace and security in Liberia in the interests of the Liberian people. This is what Gen. Moussa Traore told Charles Taylor this morning. Now, let us listen to Charles Taylor, who spoke to Yacouba Kone:

[Begin recording in English fading into French translation] [Taylor] We are holding fast to the cease-fire, and we are just here on our way to Banjul. We have made a stopover to meet with President Traore. We have come to inform our elder brother and this worthy son of Africa that we have accepted the Bamako agreement and will abide by it. We have also come to thank him for having devoted his time to helping our country reach a lasting agreement.

[Kone] You are on your way to Banjul. What can we expect from this West African ministerial meeting?

[Taylor] Well, the modalities are very complicated and we consider this a beginning process. But we have to use this opportunity not only to talk about the modalities of

the cease-fire, but also to begin to set the groundwork for political discussions inside Liberia. [end recording]

The audience accorded to Charles Taylor by President Moussa Traore took place this morning in the presence of Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Ngolo Traore. [passage omitted]

Niger

Saibou on Political Changes, National Conference

*AB1812135290 Dakar PANA in English 1318 GMT
18 Dec 90*

[Text] Niamey, 18 Dec. (ANP/PANA)—President Ali Saibou of Niger has said that the new political dispensation in the country will not negate its objectives and ideals explaining that there would henceforth be a prime minister and head of government responsible to the general assembly. Speaking in a radio and television broadcast on Monday, Saibou said that the presidency remains the incarnation of national unity, guarantor of respect for the Constitution, national independence and territorial integrity. He will ensure continuity of the state, preside over the council of ministers meetings, appoint members of the government and reserves the right to dissolve the national assembly, he said.

The president, paid homage to the Armed Forces which will soon return to the barracks after being in power in the past 16 years. He said they had a lot to learn from the evolution of the country which they have helped bring to its logical conclusion, that is, the advent of multiparty systems.

Saibou praised the long-sightedness, maturity and the sense of sacrifice of the Army and paid homage to the 481-member contingent dispatched recently to Saudi Arabia to participate in the protection of the Holy Places of Islam.

Highlighting the economic and food problems facing the country, Gen. Saibou announced the establishment of a national food aid emergency scheme which will begin distribution of free food to affected members of the population from February 1991. Also, he said the government will take urgent measures to improve the earnings of the state as well as maintain public expenditure at a level lower than envisaged in the budget adding that series of measures would be put in place to boost businesses in the country. Saibou said the national charter and the Constitution will soon be revised to take into account the political pluralism whose installation was announced in November by the government. He said a national conference would take place in May 1991, in which political parties to [be] formed before then would participate.

Republic Day Address

*AB1912134490 Niamey Domestic Service in French
0545 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[Address by President Ali Saibou in Niamey on 17 December on the eve of the 32d Republic Day anniversary—recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow Niger countrymen and women: one year ago, the very day of the celebration of the 31st anniversary of our Republic, I took the oath of office in the presence of our National Assembly to assume my functions as the president elected through universal suffrage in line with the new institutions. On that occasion, I said that the coincidence that took place between these two important moments in our national life was a demonstration of our attachment to republican values. It also demonstrated the tendency of our people to adapt themselves to historical events. The rhythm of our political evolution during the past year confirmed that this [word indistinct] has opened new prospects for our country. However, the general economic situation still remains poor, and has worsened this year due to a very poor agricultural production. As you can see, this is the context in which we are celebrating the 32d anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic today.

My dear fellow countrymen, I have just mentioned poor agricultural production. The food situation created by vagaries of the weather remains our main concern. In order to meet the most urgent needs of our needy fellow countrymen, the government has drawn up an emergency national food aid program. As of February, free food will be distributed to totally needy people and this will continue in all areas, among families, according to the gravity of the shortage. It is because of this particular agricultural situation that I ordered that some provincial centers should be maintained in order to ensure the rapid distribution of supplies to the affected areas.

Additionally, for fiscal 1991, the state has planned to allocate more than 500 million CFA francs to regional assistance, and for off-season cropping. This means that we are concerned about the food problem. This also means that the people of Niger must once again show courage and determination, demonstrate a deep sense of imagination, a spirit of initiative and creativity in order to reduce the shortage.

These important food problems fall within the context of a particularly unfavorable general economic situation, which has very low prospects of improving. In fact, the situation of public finance is characterized by a large fall in revenue, whereas expenditure is made according to initial provisions. This decrease has affected all fiscal revenue, customs, direct and indirect taxes, and other taxes. Meanwhile, external financing has not attained the expected levels. Equipment purchasing, which has been penalized [words indistinct] investment operations and development [words indistinct].

Similarly, the price of uranium has not experienced the expected increase which would have enabled us to give fresh impetus to our economy as a whole. On the other hand, public enterprises, like the state, have experienced serious difficulties, the effects of which are felt by all our social classes. To withstand this, I have asked the government to take the necessary emergency measures in order to increase revenue and to maintain expenditure at a level lower than the one initially envisaged. Similarly, measures will be taken to enable the resumption of activities of enterprises. This is an unavoidable condition for our economic recovery, and the improvement of our country's social situation.

Dear fellow Niger countrymen and women: you are all aware of the past social situation. The permanent tension that characterized it was, on one hand, caused by the difficult financial and economic situation, and also by the new wind of freedom and democracy blowing across our planet.

For its part, the government has constantly given priority to the institution of frank dialogue with its social partners, and has done everything possible to calm the social tension in line with this spirit. I have appointed a national mediator to examine the level of demands by the social partners, and to make concrete suggestions to meet the demands. In this regard, a joint commission has been established at the level of the prime minister to examine alternative economic and budgetary measures to replace the ones initiated by the government in May 1990, and which gave rise to trade union demands. In fact, the disturbances experienced by our country during this year 1990 were essentially caused by political motivations which are in line with the aspirations currently being expressed by all peoples of the world.

My dear fellow countrymen, you know, however, that freedom, lawfulness, democracy, have been the motto since my accession to the presidency of this country. You also know what has been done in this regard over the past three years, to maintain and pursue to the end the process of our country's renewed constitutional life. Together, we wrote a constitution inspired from our National Charter which the Niger people massively endorsed.

In order to strengthen our national cohesion and to take up challenges facing us, we created a body of political mobilization: the National Movement for the Society of Development, MNSD, which guarantees the free expression of opinions and political shades. If today, in respect of world progress and the various approaches that Niger nationals may have toward our country's future, it appears that this free expression of feelings calls for another political context, this would not contradict in any way our objectives and ideals. It is a question of—it seems to me in any case—of creating conditions for the real and full satisfaction of all in regard to the management of the affairs of the country and nation building.

That is why I adopted all the necessary measures to achieve successful political and social development in our country so that the proposals to be made will meet the expectations of all. I have set up, in this regard, committees and commissions following my solemn announcement on 15 November of steps to introduce a multiparty system. The Higher Council for National Orientation, which met to decide upon a new line of action, has just drawn up a reasonable timetable for the introduction of a multiparty system and ensuing elections. The National Charter will be revised in order to include this choice of society while the Constitution will be amended to take political pluralism into account.

Henceforth, for the first in our country, there will be a prime minister, head of the government, who will be answerable to the National Assembly, while the president of the Republic will continue to serve as the embodiment of national unity, and the guarantor of respect for the Constitution, national independence, and territorial integrity. He will ensure the continuity of the state, preside, over cabinet meetings, nominate cabinet members, and will have the right to dissolve the National Assembly. The new constitutional provisions will soon be explained to you, as well as the significance accorded to the multiparty system in Niger. Missions comprising members of the ad hoc committee will do this explanation job.

The multiparty system neither implies the return of the devils of division, fratricidal struggles, nor unnecessary abuses, much less personality clashes. It will serve as a forum for the discussion of organized ideas, for the confrontation of opinions and proposals, as well as reciprocal emulation of, and acceptance of different views. All these virtues will be useful during the national conference scheduled for May 1991, in order to have a large exchange of views on the nation's socioeconomic situation and the search for appropriate solutions to our country's problems. It seems indispensable for us to leave enough time for the formation and organization of the political parties to make this conference really beneficial for Niger.

Dear Niger countrymen and women, this patient evolution that has taken place in Niger over the past 16 years is especially due to the willingness of our Armed Forces to serve the interests of our people and to listen to them in order to satisfy their legitimate aspirations. By deciding to lead our country to a normal constitutional life, the Niger Armed Forces were fully conscious of all the implications that such a change holds for them and for the rest of the people of Niger. It is therefore with full awareness that the various stages were passed through and the succeeding stages were envisaged.

Today, the Armed Forces are convinced that they have accomplished their duty. They know that the traditional mission of an army remains one of the most beautiful and the noblest that can be rendered to a new nation. They will therefore draw the logical lesson of the evolution that they themselves have planned and carried out

to the end—that is, the advent of the multiparty system. They will do so in strict respect for our military regulations.

On this point, in my capacity as supreme commander of the Armed Forces, I would like to pay a glowing tribute to the officers and men of our national Armed Forces for their high-level performance, maturity, and sense of sacrifice they have displayed and for all they have achieved over the past 16 years at the service of Niger and its people. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the elements of our intervention battalion which, side by side with the Saudi Army, has been helping to ensure the security of the holy place of Islam. They are encouraged and supported by the entire nation and all our people are proud of them.

My dear fellow countrymen and women, like the other nations, we must, in our turn, be convinced that democracy is not decreed. It is a long apprenticeship of the rules of the game of politics where the rights and responsibilities of each and everyone are recognized and respected. It is therefore necessary for all the social groups and all the partners to respect not only the laws and regulations governing our country, but also the values of culture which constitute the strength of our society.

At this end-of-year period and at a time when we are entering a delicate period in our political journey, I appeal for the confidence, solidarity, and sense of brotherhood of all the citizens of Niger in order to spare us senseless strife, anathema, separation, intolerance, and division. I appeal to all categories of our businessmen who are severely affected by the degradation of the economic environment to show more discipline and rigor and better organize and adapt themselves to the exigencies of the times. They must be convinced that if it is true that the recovery of our economy depends on the implementation of the new plans envisaged by the government, much also depends on their own willingness and capacity to meet their obligations.

I call on our youth to invest more and more in productive work. To pupils and students, whose past school year was not productive, I would like them to count on themselves in order not to ruin their future by breaking the fragile working tool they have in their own hands.

Once again, I would like to repeat that the Niger school is to us a constant concern. This year again, the expenditures envisaged in the budget have reached a quarter of the general operating budget. The same applies to the capital budget. Unfortunately, it seems the Niger school problem is still there. I therefore ask the prime minister to organize a global discussion on this issue with all who are concerned with this problem in order to find a final solution to it.

Dear fellow Niger nationals, great tasks are ahead of us as new prospects are opened to us by the democratic opening. We must all resolutely commit ourselves with only one aim: to serve the fatherland. We are surely capable of doing so.

Long Live the Republic! Long Live Niger!

Nigeria

Babangida Criticizes Mandela, Buthelezi 'Failure'

AB1812205890 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 18 Dec 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] President F.W. de Klerk has warned the African National Congress [ANC] that it must decide if it wants a peaceful and negotiated solution or confrontation and conflict. His warning in a televised address to South Africans follows the ANC's weekend national conference, at which it said it would break off negotiations with the government in April unless it fulfills certain demands. Well, President F.W. de Klerk's criticism of the ANC is hardly surprising, but more so was a speech made by Nigeria's President Ibrahim Babangida in which he lashed out at the ANC and also Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Zulu movement. From Lagos, Sola Odunfa telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] President Babangida said he was saddened and disappointed by the failure of the ANC's vice president, Nelson Mandela, and the Inkatha leader, Chief Buthelezi, to meet each other and stop the violence among black South Africans. He described the killings as fratricidal carnage that have become the shame of Africa. He said it was unfortunate and disturbing that after a struggle marked by the sweat, tears, and blood of the illustrious children of South Africa, the country's heroes had suddenly and tragically turned their guns on each other, just when victory was in sight.

President Babangida said that since independence, Nigeria had made what he called enormous sacrifices in the struggle for the dignity of blacks in South Africa and elsewhere. The country could not afford to sit by and watch South Africans fritter away those sacrifices in what he said was a senseless and [word indistinct] competition for political and ethnic ascendancy.

He called on the ANC, Inkatha, and the Pan-Africanist Congress and all other mass movements in South Africa to bury their pride and sink their differences. He said he was confident that South Africa's black leaders, who had enjoyed Africa's support in the darkest days of their struggle against apartheid, will not let the continent down. [end recording]

Naval Chief Commends ECOMOG Performance

AB1812222690 Dakar PANA in English 1834 GMT
18 Dec 90

[Text] Lagos, 18 Dec (NAN/PANA)—The chief of Naval Staff Vice-Admiral Murtala Nyako, Tuesday in Lagos commended the performance of the Nigerian Navy in the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African

States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peace keeping operations in Liberia. He told the commanding officers of the two Nigerian warships which returned last week that he was happy with the efficiency with which the naval officers performed in their assignments with ECOMOG.

The officers, Cdr. Anthony Bob-Manual and Cdr. Joe Kalu-Igbomagh were captains of the two ships, NNS Ohue and NNS Ekpe respectively.

The involvement of the Nigerian Navy in Liberia started with the departure of the warships NNS Ambe and NNS Damisa on a mission to evacuate Nigerians living in that nation. The fleet, however, increased to five with the deployment of NNS Ekpe, Ohue and Barama, all of which have, according to sources, facilitated the operations of the ECOMOG in Liberia. The Nigerian ships were used, among other things, for policing the Liberian territorial waters.

Paper Criticizes Involvement in Libyan Airlift

AB1812173890 Lagos International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Dec 90

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the SUNDAY MAIL notes that Nigeria's involvement in the airlift of Libyan prisoners of war had not been well thought out enough to avoid the type of embarrassment that the affair has now generated. It wonders why, for instance, the identities of the prisoners of war, POW's, were not revealed before they were airlifted to Nigeria. It also wants to know why it was not possible for the new Chadian government of Idriss Deby to negotiate with Libya on how they can be evacuated back to their country.

The SUNDAY MAIL observes that, though it should not be recommended that their country shut its doors to the need of helping out others in distress, it wants Nigeria's humanitarian policy to distinguish between the treatment of refugees and dissidents.

Task Force To Screen Looted Goods From Liberia

AB1912170090 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] A task force headed by a Nigerian Major (?Botros) has been set up by the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] to check the shipment of looted goods, especially luxury items, from Liberia. The task force has more than 100 soldiers drawn from all the participating countries in ECOMOG.

The sole administrator of the Liberian Port Authority, Commander (Anthony Ony), disclosed this in an interview with a Radio Nigeria Network News correspondent in Monrovia, (Ademola Folabi). Commander (Ony) said that the task force is also empowered to seize all looted goods without clearance.

Meanwhile, the interim government has been advised to impose levies on goods being taken out of the country to be able to retain valuable ones. Commander (Ony) is of the opinion that the introduction of the levies would enhance revenue generation for the interim government.

Police Reportedly Arrest 22 Muslim Fanatics

AB1912133490 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Lagos, Dec 19 (AFP)—Police in northern Nigeria, have arrested 22 Moslem extremists who allegedly tried to take over a mosque and preached the need for an Islamic "holy war" to cure the country's ills, 'PUNCH' newspaper reported here Wednesday. The fanatics clashed with the police when they attempted to take over the mosque in Kankia village, Katsina state. When police stopped them entering the mosque, they set up loud speakers to criticise the government and threaten a "Jihad", PUNCH said. The fundamentalists condemned the open ballot system introduced for local government elections on December, calling it unislamic. The police confirmed the arrests of the 22 and said they would shortly appear in court.

*** Nigerian Seeks Norwegian Firms to Launder Money**

91EN0089Z Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 3 Nov 90 p 10

[Article by Arid M. Jonassen: "Millions Offered for 'Laundering'"—first paragraph is AFTENPOSTEN introduction]

[Text] A number of Norwegian businesses have received letters from representatives of Nigerian companies, with generous offers of profits of up to 90 million Norwegian kroner for participating in the laundering of illicit funds. AFTENPOSTEN is able to publish one of these letters.

In the letter, the Norwegian businesses are asked to send three copies of their stationery, three copies of pro forma invoices for a specified sum of over 13 million U.S. dollars, and the bank account number. It was emphasized that this was a golden opportunity for the Norwegian firm.

The head of the Financial Crimes Office, Lars Oftedahl Broch, has similar letters that were sent to several Norwegian businesses, and he urges others who have such letters to contact him.

"There is undoubtedly a criminal purpose behind these letters. We have been warned through Interpol about a similar offensive aimed at Swiss firms, and we are currently determining its international dimensions in order to find out what criminal intentions the senders really have," says Oftedahl Broch.

In some letters, the businesses are urged outright to participate in laundering money in the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC). In other letters, the Norwegian firms are not invited to participate in illegal transactions so directly, but are merely urged to

send the necessary documents for a profit of up to 40 percent of the total sum. This ranges from 6 to over 30 million U.S. dollars.

The senders have various names and addresses in Nigeria, and it is doubtful whether they have provided their real identities. In AFTENPOSTEN's letter, the sender is Charles O.I. Amadi, of the Nigerian National Shipping Line (NNSL), according to the letter. He has provided what is probably a private address, and explains that he is acting on behalf of a friend in the National Petroleum Corporation, who has apparently embezzled money at his workplace and needs to cover it—with an invoice from Norway. The amount is exactly 13,084,266.14 U.S. dollars.

Financial Crimes' Theories

The Nigerians could have many possible intentions. Chief Oftedahl Broch outlines three main possibilities, but emphasizes that the intent could be both money-laundering and using company documents to set up a swindle where the firms risk getting trouble and no money. A possible laundering operation could be intended for anything from illegal oil money to drugs.

1. Perhaps what is in one of the letters is correct, that an employee of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has embezzled illicit funds that he wants a cover for in the account—with a pro forma invoice from Norway for the exact amount.

2. The inquiry to Norwegian firms can also be a link in a more complicated fraud, involving gathering documents from firms in a number of countries. The police know of cases where swindlers by this means give potential oil buyers the impression that they sell large quantities of oil abroad, and with the invoices they are able to give the impression that they are large and serious oil sellers.

The large oil contracts can range from 100 to 150 million U.S. dollars, and some expenses accumulate for the buyer before the cargo of oil is delivered. It is exactly this money the swindlers are after, perhaps 1 million U.S. dollars for every oil broker they trick.

3. A third possibility is that Norwegian firms that take the bait may themselves have to assume certain financial obligations if they answer the inquiry, and that they would thus be liable for fraud.

Norway on the Financial Crimes Map

Financial Crimes Chief Oftedahl Broch does not want to speculate further on what could lie behind the audacious letters from Nigeria, but he thinks they are a very good example of the fact that Norway is part of an international criminal organization's area of interest.

He advises against answering the letter, both because participation in illegal transactions is openly urged in several of the letters, and because anyone who sends a letter with his own signature could himself be drawn into something he doesn't know the extent of.

The letter in AFTENPOSTEN's possession opens cheerfully, with the sender saying that his attention has been drawn to the Norwegian corporation to which he is writing by a friend who is a sailor, named Stephen Klerk.

With an international investigation of the effort, perhaps police in various countries will be able to find the solution to the mystery of the audacious letters.

[Text of letter, p 10]

4 October 1990, The Managing Director, [address omitted] Norway.

Dear Sir, I am using this golden opportunity to introduce myself to you. I am Charles O.I. Amadi, an Accountant with the Nigerian National Shipping Line (NNSL). I know you through my friend Mr. Stephen Klerk, a Seaman. I hinted to him what my friend working with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) wanted to do and he handed over to me to negotiate. After he explained the details to you, you may be surprised to see a letter of this type asking you to do this or that. My friend, who is an accountant with the (NNPC), asked me to negotiate with a reliable Overseas Company for him to pay some amount of money into their Bank Account. You know as a Senior Accountant with the Corporation, he will not be in a position to start negotiation with people on this issue, that is why he handed over to me everything for arrangement because I am with the Shipping Line, that I can see all these Shipping Builders and Seamen. And I strongly believe that my effort will not be wasted. The total amount to be transferred out now is (13,084,266.14) U.S. Dollars. The only thing we needed from your own side at the moment is:-

(1) Three (3) copies of company letterhead papers, (2) Three (3) copies of pro forma invoice (3) Bank account number

The letter headings and pro forma invoices are what we are to use to transfer the money into your bank account. The photocopies of the documents will be sent to you from time to time. We mapped out a good percentage for your assistant. I wish to state that without letter headings, pro forma invoice, and Bank Account number, the transfer will not be possible. If you cannot handle it you can give us someone that can equally assist us to get this money transferred out.

Your reply is very much expected with minimum delay.

Yours faithfully, [signature] (Charles O.I. AMADI)
(BSC.MSC.ACCOUNTANCY)

Senegal

* Talks Continue on OCI Summit Date

91P40077A Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 19 Nov 90
p 16

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Before leaving Jiddah on the morning of 18 November 1990, the head of state [Abdou Diouf] met with OCI [Islamic Conference Organization]

Secretary General Al Gabid who, on his departure, said that talks were continuing to set a new date for holding the OCI summit in Dakar, and that topics for discussion would be refined when Senegal is financially prepared. [passage omitted]

* Japanese Aid for Food Production Equipment

91AF0271B Dakar LE SOLEIL in French
17 Oct 90 p 5

[Text] Mr. Moussa Toure, economy and finance minister, and Mr. Mitsuhei Murata, Japan's ambassador to Senegal, signed an exchange of notes for a gift of 600,000,000 yen on 17 October, 1990 at 9 AM.

This gift from the Government of Japan is part of its aid program to boost food production and will be used to buy and ship fertilizer, plant-health products, agricultural machinery, and transport vehicles to Senegal.

Sierra Leone

NPFL Rebels Cross Border, Attack Villagers

AB1912184090 Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT
19 Dec 90

[Text] Freetown, Dec 19 (AFP)—Hungry rebels from Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) crossed into Sierra Leone on Tuesday and attacked villagers near the border, police said Wednesday. The sources said 400 villagers at Kissy Tonge fled into the bush after about 100 rebels crossed a river separating the countries.

A witness said the men carrying light arms and hand grenades had stolen cows, goats, sheep and foodstuffs in their attack on the border area about 460 kilometres (285 miles) east of here. Paramount Chief Sama Gbalahun said the NPFL guerillas wounded three villagers and took four others as hostages. Some 300 Sierra Leone soldiers were immediately dispatched to the border early Wednesday to repel further attacks, a military source said.

According to witnesses inside Liberia, bands of NPFL rebels have also attacked villages near the capital, Monrovia over the past two weeks, killing at least five people in their search for food and money.

Mr. Taylor's NPFL rebels launched their bid to overthrow the late president Samuel Doe last December 24. Mr Doe was killed by a rival rebel faction led by Prince Johnson last September in Monrovia.

Diplomats Protest 'Attacks' at 'Highest Level'

AB1712212290 Paris AFP in English 2115 GMT
17 Dec 90

[Text] Freetown, Dec 16 (AFP)—Diplomats in Freetown on Monday protested "at the highest level" to the Sierra

Leonean authorities over two incidents in which they said the Vienna Convention had been violated. According to diplomatic sources, a German crew filming scenery in Freetown was forced out of a German Embassy car at gunpoint by four Nigerian soldiers from the Economic Community of West Africa's peace-keeping force. They said the crew's cameras were demanded and their films confiscated. The soldiers gave no reason for their action even though the Germans were not taking shots of military structures, they said.

In the second incident, on Friday, the sources said that the deputy ambassador of an unspecified Middle Eastern country was attacked while picnicking on a beach with his family. They said two men brandishing knives suddenly appeared and took away all the clothes belonging to the diplomat and his family, including their shoes. "We raised the alarm but nobody seemed to worry. We are really frightened. Our children are now having nightmares", the diplomat was quoted as saying.

There have been a spate of attacks on diplomats here in recent months which police say they are investigating. A Foreign Ministry spokesman on Monday confirmed that the complaint had been received. "We are studying it and will come up with a solution," the official said.

Togo

Human Rights League Seeks General Amnesty Law

AB1812132490 Paris AFP in French 1338 GMT
15 Dec 90

[Text] Lome, 15 Dec (AFP)—The Human Rights League of Togo (LTDH) today called on President Gnassingbe Eyadema to "have a general amnesty law passed," and to appoint "an official mediator known for his moral integrity and political neutrality." The mediator will be responsible for "collating the views of the government and the Rally of the Togolese People (RPT) on the one hand, and those of underground opposition movements and various socioprofessional groups on the other, with a view to defusing the present social tensions, and forestalling the risks of tribalistic and regionalistic degeneration".

For the LTDH, which made these proposals at its first general assembly, "this consultation process should lead to a national dialogue forum which will spell out broad orientations for Togo in the era of political pluralism. The building of Togo's future democracy on a firm foundation is possible only through dialogue".

The LTDH, an independent organization, was formed on 20 July this year and is chaired by Mr. Kokou Koffigoh, president of the bar association. There is also a human rights commission set up by the state and currently headed by Mr. Dovu Ahlonko, a legal practitioner.

END OF

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21 Dec. 1990

